

Preparedness



JOURNAL

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Prophecies, Predictions & Promises

By J. Michael Stevens

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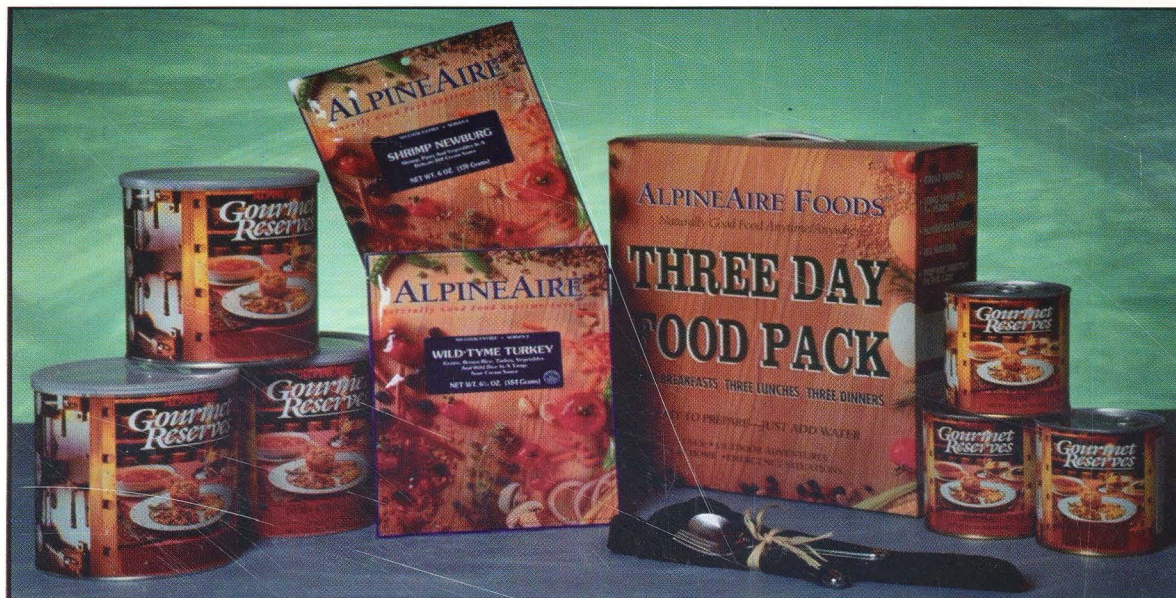
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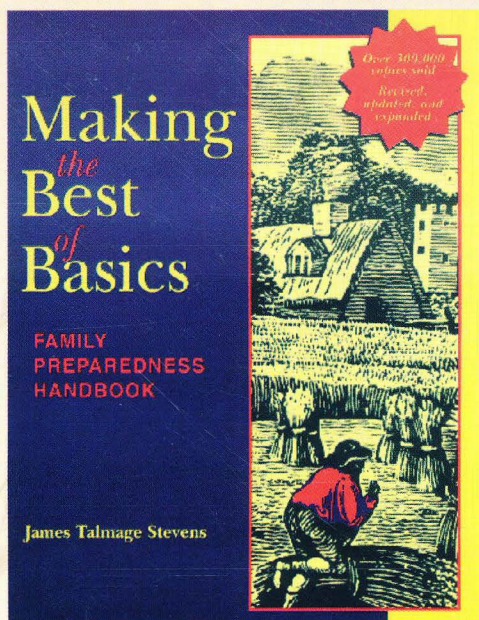
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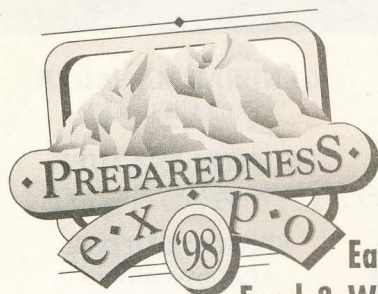
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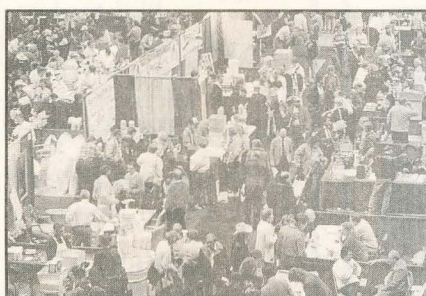
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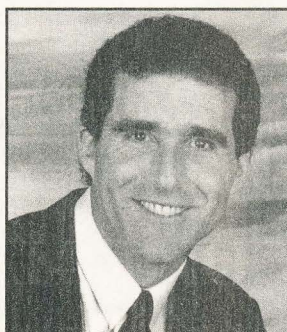
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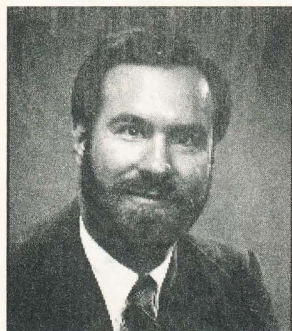
President of Swiss America Trading Corporation, which specializes in precious metals trading, host of the radio feature, *True Wealth in the Next Millennium* and founder of The Year 2000 National Educational Task Force (Y2KNET), Craig J. Smith is a widely recognized author and lecturer. The goal of Y2KNET is to provide a hub for credible information about the impact of Y2K upon our world. Y2KNET offers practical steps of preparation that are required now to prepare for the worst computer crisis in history!

Dr. Leonard G. Horowitz, is a Harvard graduate, independent investigator, and an internationally known expert in public health and AIDS education. He is the author of the critically acclaimed best seller *Emerging Viruses: AIDS & Ebola - Nature, Accident or Intentional*. Could modern advances in cancer research and genetic bio-technology have given rise to new viruses and the current and coming plagues? More frightening, could the AIDS and Ebola epidemics have been planned?



Len Horowitz

Editor of *The National Investor*, Chris Temple has earned a rapidly growing following through his understandable explanation of how the financial markets work and interact. Chris Temple has distinguished himself as an authority on financial markets. Few predicted, with the same level of accuracy, each new decline in gold's price to recent 18-year lows as he did over the last three years. Now, with gold struggling to get back over \$300 per ounce, Temple presents a reasoned, useful picture of the likely future for precious metals.



Chris Temple

In 1987 Kathleen moved from Southern California and bought an old farmhouse in rural Washington State to learn how to be self-sufficient. For the next five years, Kathleen was a homesteader, she grew and preserved her own food, raised farm animals, got her water from a well and heated with wood. In 1992 she moved back to the North Carolina mountains and started her *Back to Basics Catalog*. She teaches Organic Gardening, Food Storage and Preservation, and How to set-up a self-sufficient Homestead.



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Editorial: A New Look for These Times

It is with great pleasure that I am able to unveil the new format for the Preparedness Journal. We hope that you find it to be an improvement over the larger tabloid size that we have had over the last 6 years. We feel that there are several advantages with being more of a magazine publication rather than a folded newspaper. Many readers have commented over the years that magazines are easier to handle, read and store than the other types. So after much contemplation, we have decided to take the plunge and upgrade for you, our readership.

The reason that I am discussing this is because in reality, this publication is yours. It originated long ago, due to the hundreds of requests that we received from attendees at the Preparedness Expos, asking when we could hold a show in their town or their state. At the time, as now, we were a very small company with just a handful of employees. The possibility of putting together more than 5 or 6 shows in a year just wasn't there. So we figured that by starting a small newsletter, we could get a lot of the same information to self-reliant minded folks, right in their mailboxes in a somewhat consistent manner.

Well, for the most part, we feel that this idea has succeeded. The Journal keeps attracting very respected writers who take the time to pen their thoughts and expertise. Our readership

keeps growing steadily (sometimes despite our growing pains), which we sincerely appreciate. In addition to this, we find that more and more preparedness related companies are joining us, to bring you the availability of some very useful and unique products and services.

This is all so that more and more people will have the chance to be better informed and through pro-active planning, can become much better prepared in our changing times. We feel that there is no more time to just sit around and philosophize about this or that problem. It is imperative that everybody put their knowledge to work and achieve a greater degree of self-sufficiency than ever before.

I remember back about the time we were having the Journal's logo designed in early 1992, some people commented and tried to discourage us against doing this project. I guess they thought that we were planning to start an "alarmist doom and gloom rag." We didn't see it that way. The strange thing is that these same people now sometimes look me up to ask about what is going on in this unpredictable, strange world today.

Even with serious blinders in place, any somewhat thinking person can see that we live in precarious times. I don't pretend to understand the big picture, but I do know that with every preparation I make, I achieve greater peace of mind. From the letters

that I get, I also know that my experience is not unique. More and more people out there are getting their wake up call, and stepping into the gap. Many are doing great things in their own manner, helping others to understand the dangers that exist as we approach the year 2000.

Speaking of dangers of the new millennium, we have two very informative articles in this issue that address the upcoming computer problems that will be felt globally, due to the century change and some bad choices that were made when computer programming was in its infancy. We also have some excellent articles that discuss very timely issues such as biological weapons, the status of precious metals, and more.

We will be introducing new departments, columns, reviews and design changes throughout this year based on the many wonderful suggestions that we received from you readers who participated in the survey that we ran a few issues back. Thanks for taking the time to mail them in, because by having your feedback, we can continue to "keep our ear to the ground" on what you are most interested in learning about. We always welcome your comments in letter form, both positive and negative, so keep them coming as well. May your spring be filled with all good things and thanks again for your support with this publication. -LMA

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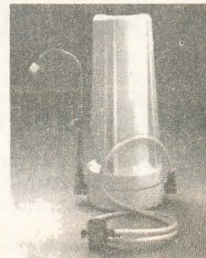


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Prophecies, Predictions & Promises

By J. Michael Stevens

Abraham Lincoln said, "It will all become one thing."

I with my modicum of spiritual, political, environmental and computer awareness, stand at the intersection of two railroad tracks.

As I face to the south a huge freight locomotive, pulling a train with "PROPHECIES, PREDICTIONS AND PROMISES" emblazoned in bright crimson letters across its box cars is approaching at break neck speed.

I turn to the east and I'm met with the approach of a train with "NEW WORLD ORDER" in blue and white letters stenciled on its side. I turn again to the north and see an engine bearing down with "EARTH CHANGES, WEATHER DISRUPTION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL UPHEAVAL" scrolled in green down the sides of its cars.

To the west, a ghostly apparition of pure energy outlines the form of a freight which has "THE YEAR 2000 COMPUTER CRASH," digitally scrolling across its cars as it avalanches toward me.

Over the years I've talked to a lot of people about why they are preparing for a certain but undefined future. Most families tend to fall into four areas of concern. Some are motivated to action by prophecies and predictions. Many people are politically aware and are concerned with the spread of the New World Order. In some parts of the country, folks are keenly aware of earth and climate changes. Those who are attuned to the year 2000 Computer Crash are urgently planning for its impact on their lives. If we can put into one place a summary of all four areas of concern, I believe they all become the summation of the time in world history during which we live.

A Look at the Three P's

The book of Revelation in the Bible gives many people both

food for thought and concern. For hundreds of years the faithful have studied this book looking forward to the time that we call now. There are many circumstances and events predicted that appear to be in the process of happening and that could very readily occur as the political and environmental signs of our times develop.

There's a period of time called the tribulation when there will be wars and rumors of war. When a world leader, referred to as the Anti Christ will be in control for 3 1/2 years (half of the tribulation). During this time there will be a mark placed on individuals who accept his leadership. There will be no buying or selling without that mark. I believe that mark is technologically available in our times. Counsel is given not to take the mark. Those who choose not to do so, and thereby omit themselves from the New World Order, have no choice but to become self sufficient enough to remain free of obligation to the system.

There are other predictions within the book of Revelation that are quite threatening to survival simply from the perspective of crop failure and the inability to grow food. After opening of the seventh seal, reference is made to hail and fire mingled with blood which will kill one third of the trees and all of the green grass. Later in that same seal a great mountain burning with fire will be cast into the sea distorting one third of the creatures, one third of the ships, and contaminating one third of the water. Good health and the ability to provide for one's sustenance will be the only protection against the plagues of insects and disease. Predictions of a great earthquake, and the earth reeling to and fro as a drunken man, are being scientifically corroborated.

Nostradamus

Nostradamus, who was a seer several hundred years ago, saw many events that students have identified as already having occurred. For our times, he predicted that there would be a one world government, ultimately controlled by a 'blue turbaned' world dictator that would appear at first to be very good and ultimately become evil. He also saw the oceans casting themselves out of their bounds. The sun will become dark for long periods of time. There will be famines, fire storms, pestilence, and earthquakes across the earth.

Hopi Indian Prophecies

The Hopi Indians have some rather interesting prophecies that are archeologically dated back to the time of Christ. One prophecy indicates that there will come a time when a house of glass will be built in the east where all nations may come together to air their differences. When this building was built, the Elders and the spiritual leaders of the Hopi Nation were told to make a pilgrimage to that building. Their mission was to warn the nations to repent of their iniquities, or they would be destroyed. Shortly after the United Nations came into existence, the Hopi delegation was refused audience. Upon their departure they performed the ancient priesthood ordinance of shaking the dust from their heels. Now, anyone slightly familiar with the spiritual capability of these fine people would be very wise to distance themselves considerably from any organization against which this ordinance was performed.

There's another prophecy that is quite interesting. At some point in time a gourd of ashes will fall to the earth, turning the whole earth to ash. I wonder if this could be

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Prophecies, Predictions & Promises continued...

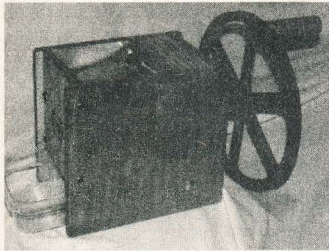
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nuclear, or whether it might be the plant pathogen that many believe will kill all of the green plants on the earth. Some modern visionaries are predicting earthquakes, comets, volcanic eruptions, and many kinds of weather disruptions. Three different individuals have envisioned major continental plate shifting which will very likely make Phoenix an ocean front community. All of this evidence and information would indicate the importance of a high degree of self

sufficiency and preparation for the future.
The New World Order
When President Bush first used the term, "New World Order" on national TV, many of us, were to say the least, shocked. For many years, most of us have been familiar with the plan of a supposedly elite group to establish a one world government. As people become more aware of the plans and policies implemented by the one world government advocates, concern is mounting that we may not be able to maintain even a

small portion of the liberties that we have learned from our forefathers to expect in our country.
Every country that has gone Socialist in the last 75 to 100 years has followed the same pattern. The first thing that they do is remove the weaponry from the hands of the people. This allows a condition that Thomas Jefferson warned about. He indicated that when the government no longer fears the people, the people need to fear the government.
The second policy that they always enact, is to eliminate the effective use of private property. Right now in our country we have the wetlands act, which is gobbling up thousands of acres of good farm land and removing it from our use. We have several hundred critters which are on the endangered species list, which can be used to eliminate the use of our own property. There are instances where land has been removed from use by its owners, not just for the presence of an endangered species but because it would have made a good potential habitat. There are some states in which the attempt is being made to put water meters on all private wells. The biggest land grab in the history of the world is being perpetrated by the Bureau of Land Management.
The third program requires that all children

be educated in government run schools. Families have become aware of school policies to dumb the children down. Programs like "school to work" literally prevent the education of young people in their high school years. The other danger to families in the school systems are questionnaires and counseling sessions that require children to be informants on their parents.
The fourth program of every socialist system is socialized medicine. This must be in place because it gives the power of life and death to the system. Dissidents and anyone who can remember history before it was rewritten must be eliminated. In order to implement these four programs, food is always used to force compliance.
Mr. Clinton has signed an executive order, to limit the amount of food in our homes. The GATT agreement requires that all member nations limit the amount of food that their citizens can have on hand. There are so many individual subjects, pertaining to the New World Order, that we can only skim across a few limited points in this article. Every family that I talk to, about preparedness brings up the fact that their friends, parents, children, and neighbors, all think they are at best extremist, at worst, nuts. This reaction is understandable because

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if a subject is scary, the safest thing to do is deny it exists.

Many people function like the three monkeys--hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil, and hope like crazy there is no evil. The response most of us experience with people who don't want to face what's going on, is:

"They won't let things like that happen in this country."

"If that were true, there would be a revolution."

1910 - "There would never be a tax on income, that would be un American."

1925 - "There will never be a depression. They know how to control the economy, and the bankers would never let it happen."

"Of course I'm sure none of our boys were left in Prison Camp after World War II, Korea and Vietnam. They wouldn't let that happen. Every living soldier, I'm sure, has been accounted for."

"Aids, Ebola, the other designer virus's are unfortunate, biological mutations. Besides, why would any so called elitist want to reduce the world's population by two thirds? They'd be reducing their own market, and the labor base."

The conclusion that most of us draw with regard to the New World Order, is the same as those who are following prophecy, predictions, and promises. If we're to deal with the certain, but undefined future, we need to be as absolutely self-sufficient as possible.

Earth Changes-Weather

The scientific data documenting increased earthquake and volcanic activity (whether intentionally stimulated or not) is overwhelming. Climate and weather extremes (man made or not), crop diseases and infestation (man made or not) will bring about famines whether viewed as fulfillment of prophecies, or just the conditions of our times.

The earth's continental plates slipping and the magnetic

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NEW WORLD ORDER

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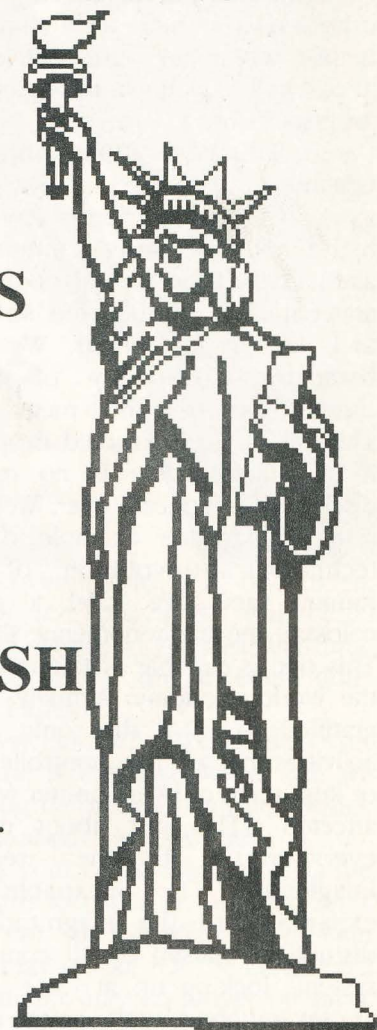
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Continued from page 9

polar shift will cause the oceans to heave themselves out of their bounds, and the earth to reel as a drunken man, for both, the scientific atheist and the Christian scriptorian. The fact that the greatest El Nino effect, in 150 years is occurring and expected to continue throughout the season, will mean food shortages. It needs to be planned for, whatever the reason and cause.

The Year 2000 Computer Crash

The crash theorists present us with a really interesting alternative to the typical doomsday material that has become so near and dear to our hearts. We have here, no conspiracy of mean spirited, power drunk mega nuts. There is no long awaited prophecy to be filled. There is no natural disaster to pontificate over. We have a most exquisite example of the technological evolution of the human race. We have a giant, colossal, mega phenomenal, OOPS. This one is capable of taking down the world economy. Actually we're gratified to learn that only those activities that are run, controlled by, or kept track of by computer will be affected. (This just about means everything). If the readers imagination is incapable of expanding to the magnitude of disruption, caused by all computer systems locking up at once, there are several good books on the issue-it's suggested that you read them.

Why were the prophecies, predictions, and promises given? Was it so we could change the outcome? If we could, I guess it wouldn't be prophecy. The value of the predictions, is the ability to prepare for the event. If there is to be a famine, get food stored. If there will be no buying or selling, get what you need now.

What's the value of learning the way the New World Order

functions? If we know that they always grab the guns, control private property rights, separate children from their families, and allow only socialized medicine for health care, we can predict their actions. When we see that food is always used to enforce the programs, our best chance of sidestepping their control is to be self-sufficient.

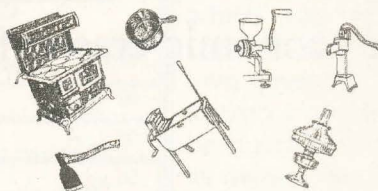
It's interesting to learn what to expect in earth changes and climate fluctuations. The value in learning is not our ability to change the occurrence but to prepare for it. The same is true of the computer crash.

We often learn what is happening, how it's happening, why it's happening. We then come away with the sense that we've accomplished something. However, until we have done something to prepare for when it happens, the learning is useless.

When the four subjects we've discussed are placed in total perspective, they do, as Mr. Lincoln said, "all become one thing." The "one thing" is the word that resounds in our minds and our hearts, PREPARE. If we are wise, we will, we must, be doers of the word, and not hearers only. PREPARE

About the author: J. Michael Stevens, B.A., M.B.A., has worked in the preparedness and food storage industry for over 15 years. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Business and Master's in Marketing. He currently sits on the board of directors of one of the largest emergency food storage companies in the world. Much of his knowledge and experience comes from extensive travel and work in the personal preparedness field. 1-800-462 6458.

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The Year 2000 Computer Crisis

By Craig J. Smith

We are all competing right now in a race against time to avert an impending computer catastrophe.-Con. Connie Morella (D-MD) Speech at 1997 Y2K Symposium

A global financial crash, nuclear meltdowns, hospital life-support system shut downs, a collapse of the air-traffic system are possible without proper attention now." -NY Times, feature article 4/2/97

A \$Trillion "Millennium Bug" Is Born ...

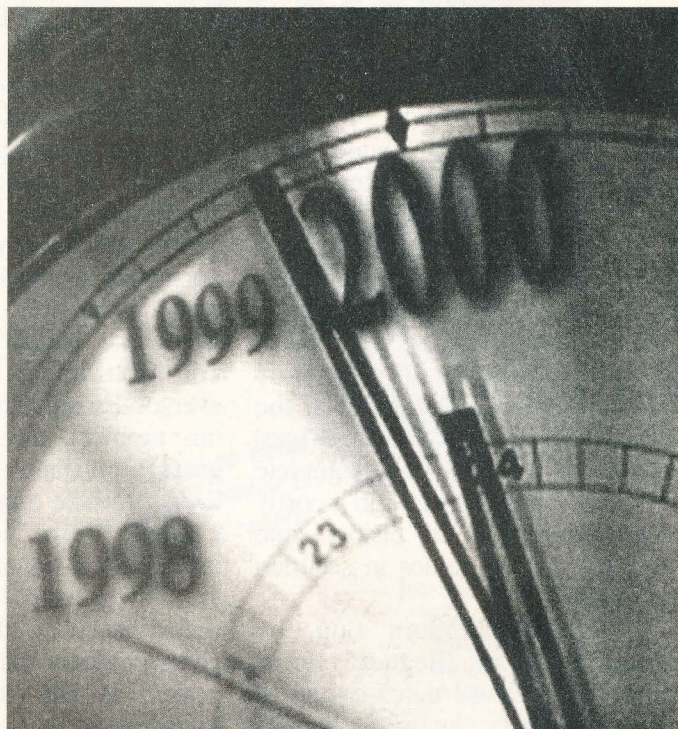
Over three decades ago, computer programmers who wrote mainframe computer software saved computer disk space by designing year codes as two-digit entries: "67" instead of a four digit code, "1967." All this hoopla is over two tiny digits, deeply embedded into millions of computers worldwide that may bring modern culture to its knees, starting next year. The problem originated with the idea of saving disk space, which seemed like a wise decision because of the high cost of memory and physical space requirements. Now experts are in agreement that this may prove to be the most expensive and potentially chaotic forecasting error since Noah's flood.

Computers only do what they are programmed to do. They have been programmed to recognize "2000" as "1900" (uncorrected PC architecture DOS Windows-based desktop computers will revert back to 1980 or 1984). They can be corrected, but once you turn the machine off the correction dies. It will reboot to "1980" or "1984" as a default. PC programs must be redesigned.

What programmers have ignored for three decades is that the year 2000 two-digit code of "00" will disrupt everything. So, at midnight, January 1, 2000, most computers will produce incorrect results whenever "date arithmetic" is carried out. Every computer using unrevised software will die. If old acquaintances are in the computer, they will indeed be forgotten.

Programmers who recognized the implications of this problem did not care. They assumed that their software would be updated by the year 2000. That assumption now threatens every piece of custom software on every mainframe computer around the world, unless they have rewritten the code. In some cases, this involves coordinating half a million lines of code. That means that AT&T's whole system could be shut down because of a one-digit error, the same way America OnLine was shut down.

The "Millennium Bug," or "Bomb" is unsolvable, according to the experts. There just is not enough time left. Nevertheless, a brave attempt to minimize the damage is now getting under way both in the private sector and on the federal government level.



Sadly, a recent poll uncovered that only one in six Fortune 500 companies are presently "year 2000 compliant." This is troubling indeed because this time bomb cannot be fully disarmed-at any price-and don't count on a "silver bullet" either.

Last summer, Newsweek (6/2/97) carried a cover story entitled, "The Day the World Shut Down: Can We Fix the 2000 Computer Bug Before It's Too Late?" which issued a sobering warning about the Y2K crisis:

"Drink deep from your champagne glass as the ball drops in Times Square to usher in the year 2000. Whether you imbibe or not, the hangover may begin immediately. The power may go out. Or the credit card you pull out to pay for dinner may no longer be valid. If you try an ATM to get cash, that may not work, either. Or the elevator that took you up to the party ball room may be stuck on the ground floor. Or the parking garage you drove into earlier in the evening may charge you more than your yearly salary. Or your car might not start. Or the traffic lights might be on the blink. Or, when you get home, the phones may not work. The mail may show up, but magazine subscriptions will have stopped, your government check may not arrive, your insurance policies may have expired."

"Or you may be out of a job. When you show up for work , after the holiday, the factory or office

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The Year 2000 Computer Crisis continued...

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building might be locked up, with a handwritten sign taped to the wall: OUT OF BUSINESS DUE TO COMPUTER ERROR."

"Could it really happen? Could the most anticipated New Year's Eve party in our lifetime really usher in a digital nightmare when our wired up-the-wazoo civilization grinds to a halt? Incredibly, according to computer experts, corporate information officers, congressional leaders and basically anyone who's given the matter a fair hearing, the answer is yes, yes, 2,000 times yes! Yes, unless we successfully complete the most ambitious and costly technology project in history, one where the payoff comes in securing raw survival."

The Millennium Bug, by Michael S. Hyatt (Regnery Press, 275pp, 3/98 release date) is one of dozens of new books on the subject that you will soon see. This book is an excellent general primer because Hyatt tells it like it is and uses tons of footnotes. For example in Chapter One, "Pennywise and Pound Foolish" he states, "Unless the Millennium Bug is tracked down and squashed, you, your family, your friends, and your friends' friends are at risk. Many of the things you have learned to depend on and take for granted, could suddenly disappear, leaving you for all practical purposes, in the year 1900. The difference, of course, is that if you were suddenly transported back to the beginning of the 20th century, people would know how to cope with life without the aid of computers. In our high-tech, computer-permeated society, few do."

In Chapter Five, "Hot Checks and Cold Bankers" Mike cuts to the chase, "We are well on our way to becoming the umpteenth society to have

destroyed its [fiat] money, and it is this which gives Y2K its power. Without it, Y2K would simply be a nuisance."

According to Jim Lord, author of The Y2K Survival Guide, "Y2K is not a technical problem, it's a management problem of monumental size and complexity. I liken it to knowing when a river will flood your town, but not being able to convince anyone to start stacking the one million sandbags needed to handle the flood waters. The frustration is in knowing that if everyone would immediately address this problem, the damage could be greatly contained. Instead, we are in deeper trouble every day that nothing is done. If we fall into a state of emergency it will take years and years to fully recover. I suggest that you reread Executive Order #11490 which gives president Bill Clinton as much power as any dictator to control transportation, communications, utilities, banking and financial markets, food, wages, prices and enforce martial law. Just that thought alone should be enough to send you scouting around for your copy of a Boy Scout's Survival Manual."

Despite the national publicity Y2K has drawn, few see Y2K as a serious threat. Denial is running high among leaders in both the public and private sectors. As I've researched this problem, I have been struck by the lack of press on the subject, despite the fact that most computer experts consider this to be the biggest problem the world has ever faced. Millions and millions (maybe as many as a billion) pre-programmed computer chips will begin to shut down systems that they automatically control. Systems that run our military complex, our social services, railroads, telephone lines, public utilities, and yes, the financial markets and the global banking system. Panic could ensue.

Trying to prevent a Y2K panic is like being the first to spot a fire in the theater. If you scream "fire!", panic may ensue immediately, but if you whisper "fire" softly, no one will take you seriously. Nevertheless, it would be irresponsible to simply flee for your own safety without warning all who are threatened. So here's your warning ...

Nine Y2K Flash Points: Starting 7/1/98

There are at least nine critical Y2K flash points over the next 25 months. Mark these dates on your calendar: The first date is only a few months away; 7/1/98 which is the first day of fiscal 1999 for 46 of 50 states. The second is 10/1/98 which is the beginning of fiscal 1999 for the federal government. The next date is 1/1/1999, widely expected to cause data and software failures globally. The next date is 7/1/99 which is the first day of fiscal 2000 for 46 of 50 states. The next date is a red hot flash point; 9/9/99. Programmers have used this code (9999) to store a wide variety of files. Some programmers used 9999 to denote infinity, others have used it to trigger a computer test for shut down. The next flash point is 10/1/99, the beginning of the federal government's fiscal year 2000. Computers will hit a brick wall when non-compliant programs see the code "10/1/00."

The biggest cyber-bang will be heard on 1/1/00, (a Saturday) which will probably be like adding insult to injury. Monday 1/3/00 should be interesting, I may stay home and watch TV, if it is still working. The final flash point is 2/29/00, leap year you know. So, as you can see, long before January 1, 2000 we are in for some very tough sledding. Any day now I expect the press to finally smell a hot story-then

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The Year 2000 Computer Crisis continued...

Continued from page 12
everyone from Geraldo to Hard Copy will put their spin on what could happen.

The Y2K Global Crisis: Real or Virtual?

Think with me for a moment about what would happen if the majority of computers went down overnight, and didn't come back up for days, weeks, months, or years. Many of you could be devastated by this time bomb unless you take immediate action to defuse its effect on you and your loved ones. You may not be able to stop its devastation but, you can protect yourself against the fall out. I'll show you how later.

But, is this crisis for real or not? Is a global computer meltdown possible? YES, according to one of America's foremost computer programming experts, Ed Yourdon. Mr. Yourdon has written no less than two dozen books on programming. His latest book, Time Bomb 2000 is so critical that his publisher, Prentice -Hall, has allowed him to publish his latest drafts, chapter by chapter, on the Internet until it is published in hard-copy in early 1998. Yourdon comments on the Y2K crisis ... "I bet you thought the U.S. government, big corporations, and the media were really on top of this Y2K Problem ... they're not! The year 2000 computer bug will impact

EVERYTHING and EVERYONE. Y2K is exponential and unpredictable. Its impact will range from annoying (like being bitten by 1,000 gnats) to troublesome (100 mosquitoes) to potentially fatal (10 bumblebees or 1 rattlesnake bite)-possibly all at the same time!"

Yourdon's research spells out, in spine-chilling detail, just how serious this threat is to the entire world. You may not believe nor act upon my warning, but you better not ignore what Yourdon is saying. Tens of thousands of programmers will heed his warning. His message is simple: "Now may be the time to quit your big city jobs and head for safer places." If they listen to Yourdon (as they should) there will be no programmers to solve the problem.


The Fed Is Preparing For The Worst

On July 30, 1997 Alan Greenspan was invited to give testimony on the Fed's Y2K progress before the Subcommittee on Financial Services and Technology of the US Senate's Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. He didn't attend. Instead, he sent Federal Reserve Board Governor Edward W. Kelly, Jr., whose testimony stated..."As a result of our experience in responding to problems arising from such diverse events as earthquakes, fires, storms, and power outages, as well

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The experts agree: January 1, 2000 is certain to bring disruption worldwide. Just how much confusion and mayhem no one knows, but the problem is serious enough that the largest U.S. corporations, banks, and brokerage houses are spending hundreds of billions to get compliant. Federal agencies are spending just as much. most of them won't make it.

Imagine picking up the phone to place a trade, liquidate a mutual fund, or move to cash and there's no dial tone. Imagine your power is out for days or weeks on end in the middle of the winter. Think about what will happen if millions dependent upon government checks never get them. How will you survive if food distribution in this country comes to a halt? What would happen if the nation's (indeed the world's) air traffic grinds to a halt? What will our high tech military do if forced to fly blind, unable to fight because non-compliant systems are blacked out? Imagine going to your banks to get cash and finding it closed. How will you pay your bills?

The implications are mind staggering. Suppose you have prepared physically. What about your investments? Gold and silver are only part of the answer. How should you invest the rest? While tremendous turmoil is likely to shake even the most conservative investments, what can you do to protect your assets and hard earned savings?

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as liquidity problems in institutions, we expect to be well positioned to deal with problems in the financial sector that might arise as a result of CDC [Century Date Change]." This statement may appear true, but I wonder, how you can be sure you're "well positioned" for the most chaotic technological rollover in history. I don't place my faith in the Fed.

The Fed claims to be prepared to function as the data processing vendor of last resort for financial institutions that are "unable to access their own systems." Mr. Kelley added that the Fed can also operate paper based payment systems should there be problems with the electronic payment system. The Fed will join other banking agencies in the takeover of any banks that become insolvent as a result of Y2K.

Mr. Kelley threatened "possible use of enforcement actions as appropriate," against banks that don't move quickly enough to become Y2K compliant. He told the Congressional committee that large banks are moving faster than many small ones that have underestimated the efforts necessary to ensure Y2K compliance. The Fed is working with the Bank for International Settlements and the Group of Ten (G10) central banks on global banking Y2K issues. Perhaps Mr. Kelley's testimony was reassuring to some, but it seemed a bit clinical to me. Remember: logic and rational judgment are often clouded by emotion and instinct, especially during a crisis or panic.

The Fed is setting up an isolated mainframe data processing center for "testing our payments system applications," which are targeted to begin in June 1998. By the way, Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan will retire from the Fed in June 2000.

The Y2K "Ripple Effect"

Who in their right mind is going to leave their money in the bank if they think the bank's computers could be unreliable? A recent NY Times article stated "The potential problems are great enough that 38% of 1,100 computer industry executives worldwide surveyed said they would withdraw their personal assets from banks and investment companies just before 2000." Need I say more. A worldwide run on the banks will create havoc with the investment markets. Many months before January 1, 2000 people will begin pulling their money out of stocks, not knowing if they can get to their equity. The markets will tank overnight. People who have built their hopes, dreams, and hard-earned savings on intangible securities, could easily see their assets vanish overnight. How reliable will the stock and bond markets be if the banking system falters? How will the government, which has been rapidly moving towards paying every bill electronically, get paid or make payments?

Today in America the average investor is almost 100% dependent on computers to manage their money.

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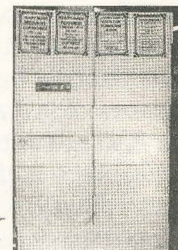
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The Year 2000 Computer Crisis continued...

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Fact is, most wealth is purely intangible. We depend on getting a periodic computer-generated account statement from our broker telling us what we are worth. But, when the clock strikes midnight on Saturday, January 1, 2000, and the computer freezes up, some or all of your intangible financial assets might accidentally be jettisoned into cyber-space, leaving your broker clueless. The sad part is that it won't be your brokers fault; nevertheless, it will be reality.

Have you ever tried to transact business with your bank when their computers are down? The problem is, even if your bank's computer system is "fixed," it is still interdependent upon the whole Federal Reserve System. What if the system should "forget" you ever existed? (It could, unless your account dates back to the year 1900). How about accessing information on a bill, or a current balance on a charge account? We all know what it is like when a computer glitches. Time lost, money lost, and in the case of Y2K, lives lost.

Here is a good example of a Y2Kaos scenario: Let's say you have \$4,000 in your bank at 5% compounded interest. On January 1, 2000 your bank's computer thinks it's January 1, 1900, so it calculates that you should receive 5% interest for 99 years. Let's say that adds up to \$10 million bucks. Your bank statement arrives and you're overjoyed at the error...that is...until you open your mortgage statement that says you owe them \$100 million bucks! You see, your 8% mortgage was also recalculated and your account is past due - 99 years! Can you even imagine the late fees? Now, think of the effect this will have on governments, banks, etc. that owe each other trillions of dollars. Scary!

Kiss The IRS Goodbye

The government may have to impose a flat tax-rate system in 2000. Why? Because it is increasingly likely that the federal tax collection, processing, and compliance systems will break down in that year. The IRS is so desperate that they want to form "strategic partnership" relationships with private industry.

Thus far, no tax collection agency above the county level is Year 2000 compliant. The IRS has millions of lines of code, few of which are Year 2000 compliant. IRS Chief Information Officer, Arthur Gross, announced that getting the IRS Year 2000 compliant is the "highest priority for the IRS. Failure to achieve compliance by Year 2000 will jeopardize our way of living on this planet for some time to come."

Perhaps what is most incredible and disturbing is a "Request for Comments" (RFC) from IRS prime contractors, dated May 15, 1997, which appears on the Web site of the US Internal Revenue Service. The IRS unambiguously admits that unless they're bailed-out by private-sector "partners," their computer systems probably will fail in 2000! For comparison purposes, consider the fact that the Social Security Administration began working on its year 2000 repair in 1989! Social Security has 30 million lines of code. By June, 1996, the SSA's 400 programmers had fixed 6 million lines.

What if the IRS is not technically equipped to pursue tax evaders after December 31, 1999? What if 20% of America's taxpayers believe that the IRS can't get them if they fail to file a return? In 1999, the IRS may find a drop in compliance from the self-employed. If they can't prosecute these people, expect a mass defection. When word spreads to the general public, there will be economic chaos. I expect to see

numerous "flat tax" proposals gain widespread acceptance before 1999 is over. They reple, easy to manage.

The whole tax system rests upon faith, which will be called into question in the year 2000 and before. If the IRS cannot collect taxes, and if all other mainframe computer-dependent tax collection agencies don't fix this, what happens to the debt markets worldwide? To interest rates? To the government-guaranteed mortgage market? Kiss them goodbye. And what about: money market funds, that are heavily invested in government debt? Banks, when depositors figure out that the FDIC is bankrupt and that nobody insures their accounts anymore? The delivery of food into cities, when money fails because banks are broke? The 42 million people on Social Security? Your retirement fund, when ERISA, the government pension guarantee program, goes under? The world economy, when this scenario is multiplied across every government?

Get the picture?

What I Would Do Now:

1. Start by investigating if I am telling you the truth about Y2K. You can access information about the year 2000 computer crisis on the web at a variety of sites including: <http://www.y2knet.com>; www.year2000.com; www.garynorth.com; www.y2kinvestor.com; www.surviveY2k.com and www.yourdon.com.

2. Decide what you will do ahead of time. What if utilities were shut down for six months ("Who ya gonna call?" especially if your phone is dead). Make a checklist of potential dangers that could result from a Y2K crisis. True self-sufficiency will take on a whole new meaning in the next two years.

3. Get your financial records

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The "Anthrax"- Harris Conspiracy

By Leon Horowitz, M.D.



Since mid-1997, two papers posted by this author on the Internet (<http://www.tetrahedron.org>--"Research, News and Views" page--"FTP Public Access files") predicted that at the right time, Larry Wayne Harris, a microbiologist from Ohio, would likely be used by U.S. intelligence agencies for propaganda purposes in the realm of biological terrorism. This prediction was fulfilled on February 19, 1998 with Mr. Harris's repeated arrest for suspected possession of "military grade anthrax," and for breaking the terms of his parole initially levied for his illegal possession of bubonic plague microorganisms. Members of the preparedness community are advised to view these events as part of a procession of propaganda initiatives aimed at sensitizing the American people to the threat of biological warfare, and imminent biological attacks on them by terrorists. Extremists likely affiliated with our own Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

On February 19, 1998 the news media announced that Mr. Harris, along with another microbiologist, William "Job" Leavitt, had been arrested the previous afternoon. The charge was suspected possession of deadly anthrax spores. These headlines appeared adjacent others heralding a critical juncture in U.S./U.N. diplomatic efforts with Saddam Hussein. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annans was making a final diplomatic effort for renewed

access by inspectors to biological and chemical weapons (CBW) sites in Iraq.

Largely overlooked in the headlines was the fact that: 1) production and use of biological weapons (BW) by any country was a violation of the standing Geneva Accord; 2) American corporations have been a principal Iraqi supplier of BW along with the reagents and culture mediums required to produce them; 3) President Clinton had been advised that such massively destructive agents can be inexpensively cultured in any large kitchen today; 4) and the hardware used to produce these "weapons of mass destruction" can be easily moved within hours of an impending inspection.

In light of the futility of periodic U.N./American inspections of Iraqi facilities something was clearly amiss. Clearly, to make the American people support the U.S. war effort, intelligence and counterintelligence activities were required.

Moreover, following the Ohio State "Town Hall Meeting" two days earlier, it became painfully obvious to the Clinton administration that Americans, if not the world, needed additional persuasion to endorse the bombing of Iraq. To secure public support for the futile if not senseless inspections, the CIA, largely directing the mainstream media, turned to the predicted use of Mr. Harris.

It was obvious to long term observers that Mr. Harris would eventually

be used for propaganda purposes at such a time. This insight was based on a number of factors. The first was that Mr. Harris has consistently stated that he previously worked as a BW researcher for the CIA. Though the CIA has officially and naturally denied his allegations, friends and intimates of Mr. Harris support his contention. They testify that even the hardware Mr. Harris displayed at various public meetings-- the germ incubation chambers and spraying devices with which to transmit BW--had been supplied by the CIA.

Second, Mr. Harris had made statements regarding knowledge of a terrorist organization that was threatening to deploy biological weapons, such as anthrax and bubonic plague, against the American people. His story was extraordinarily bizarre. He alleged that a Muslim woman, named "Miriam," warned him of her links to an organized terrorist effort to kill half the U.S. population, but then asked for a "three day" getaway period with which to escape. Granting her this, Mr. Harris incriminated himself in a conspiracy to commit biological terrorism and treason against the United States.

Third, Mr. Harris's statements regarding the risk of bioterrorism were highly consistent with U.S. propaganda campaigns that had already been initiated by official propaganda sources. In fact, it was highly suspicious that Mr. Harris and U.S. military officials would, at the same time, alert the world that America's "Achilles heel" was bioterrorist attacks. Never before in American history have top military officials, including Defense Secretary William Cohen, advised the world, including biological terrorists, how national security could be most effectively breached. By promoting the risk of biological terrorism, they were in essence promoting it.

Fourth, Mr. Harris's claimed expertise in the area of biological weapons research and development was under suspicion. Though he maintained a

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The "Anthrax" - Harris Conspiracy continued...

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"Certificate in Microbiology" from Ohio State University, his resume lacked information documenting expertise. He had no peer reviewed scientific publications. He held no doctorate.

Fifth, Mr. Harris's previous arrest showed he acted less than professionally. He pleaded guilty of fraudulently obtaining and transporting "in the glove compartment" of his car deadly bubonic plague microorganisms. Had he gotten into an automobile accident, hundreds of thousands of Americans might have been killed.

Sixth, Mr. Harris promoted a "Muslim threat" of biological terrorism despite documented published evidence linking the CIA to the production and illegal use of BW.

Finally, Mr. Harris had provided specific details regarding the manufacture and distribution of BW through his lectures and audiotapes. The information was given in such great detail that virtually anyone with a bit of intelligence and the desire could literally produce and distribute these weapons of mass destruction. Claims by Harris's supporters that these communications were sent in the interest of public health were naive at best.

It was this fact that largely generated my concern that Mr. Harris was an agent for extremist CIA operatives, propaganda, and plans to release deadly biologicals in America.

Previous and Current Events

Precedent existed for such a conspiracy theory. Recall that on the eve of the Bush administration's intention to invade Iraq in 1990, the American people required similar persuasion. America's largest public relations firm, Hill and Knowlton, was immediately summoned. Within hours they filmed a Kuwaiti prince's niece alleging she saw Saddam Hussein's elite guardsmen torturing and maiming babies, pulling them from incubators, stabbing them, then throwing them from windows. The American people were aghast. War polls shot up favorably. President Bush declared, "This aggression will not stand!" Then the war began.

Following the conflict it was determined that this entire Hill and Knowlton/Bush/CIA story was fabricated. Americans quickly forgot and history has repeated itself.

Enter Mr. Ronald Rockwell, reported to be a cancer researcher, businessman, and owner of the "AZ-58 Ray Tube Frequency Instrument Prototype" based on Royal Rife's technology. Rockwell had advertised for buyers for this machine that was said to remove bacteria and viruses, including "ANTHRAX," from "large numbers of people at the same time."

Mr. Harris and Mr. Leavitt were arrested following a tip by Mr. Rockwell—an FBI informant of dubious integrity and a jaded history; an extortion felon convicted in 1981 and 1982. Rockwell told "NBC Nightly News" on Friday (February 20, 1998) that the thought of Harris and Leavitt coming to his home in Las Vegas with military grade anthrax "scared me so bad" he called the FBI.

This statement had many problems. First, Mr. Rockwell knew the purpose of the experiments was to find a way to kill anthrax. Second, in order to do so, Mr. Harris would have to use samples of an organism (in this case, non-weapons grade agricultural anthrax). Third, it was Mr. Rockwell, not Mr. Harris, who encouraged the testing of the AZ-58 for a potential sale to Mr. Leavitt. According to Mr. Harris's intimates, the purchase would bring Mr. Rockwell \$20 million.

According to a personal acquaintance of Mr. Leavitt, who requested anonymity, a Mr. George Green introduced Harris and Leavitt. It is known that Mr. Green, a wealthy publisher with high level political connections, was a personal acquaintance of Mr. Rockwell. Both Mr. Green and Mr. Rockwell, as well as Mr. Harris, were said to have attended, if not frequented, neo-Nazi meetings.

During a recent Global Sciences Conference in Daytona, Florida, conference attendees discussed the news regarding Mr. Harris's arrest. Mr. Doug Millar, also an acquaintance of Mr. Rockwell, provided the following testimony:

"As a full time investigator of violent crimes against children, I have met some of the most interesting, weird, unusual and criminal minds in America. At a meeting I was speaking at in Las Vegas last summer, a man came forward who claimed to know a lot about the subject and about Las Vegas. He said that Ron Rockwell referred him to our event. We met the next morning to discuss what he knew. He started discussing racist issues and branched into neo-Nazi comments. . . . I wanted to find out why Rockwell referred such a despicable man to me. Soon he was telling me about his meetings at conventions with Metzgar, David Duke, etc. He had also known . . . the founder of the American Nazi Party [also named Rockwell] who was killed 25-30 years ago. . . . Then I asked him . . . "Where did you meet Ron Rockwell?" He shocked me with his answer, "At a local Nazi meeting!"

Another Global Sciences lecturer, Dave Adair, one of America's leading aerospace experts, and frequent U.S. Government/space industry consultant, indicated that he had seen and recognized unique equipment that Mr. Rockwell displayed during a previous Global Sciences meeting. Mr. Adair knew that the equipment was available only to individuals with high level security clearances. Mr. Adair stated that he had asked Mr. Rockwell, "What agency are you with?" Mr. Rockwell refused to answer his question, then walked away.

Mr. Adair also testified to ABC News that Mr. Harris's arrest in February, 1998 was a "set up."

According to USA Today (Feb. 20, p. 10A) "Leavitt's two lawyers, Lamond Mills and Kirby Wells, suggested Leavitt may have been duped and set up by Rockwell. According to attorney Mills, Rockwell was trying to "scam" Leavitt into buying the [allegedly] bogus germ killing machine. Associated Press reported the next day that Leavitt was "an honest businessman" who "had been negotiating with Rockwell to invest in his new technology and had hired Harris as a consultant. They said Harris had brought harmless anthrax vaccine from

Ohio to test the technology. They suggested Rockwell told the FBI a different story in order to get publicity."

Publicity indeed, but not for the AZ-58.

Rockwell would be intelligent enough to know that such a stunt would likely backfire given his earlier felony conviction. He would again risk facing criminal charges following a thorough FBI investigation. That is, unless the FBI were also involved in the ruse.

On the other hand, if the machine really cleared viruses and bacteria, including "ANTHRAX" from people's blood, and Rockwell was a smart businessman, then he would expect Mr. Leavitt and Mr. Harris to test the machine with the agents he advertised it cleared: "ANTHRAX." As a cancer and microbiology researcher, the thought of a prospective buyer bringing even "military grade" anthrax in for such a trial should not have alarmed him. So why then, other than to trigger a propaganda campaign, did Mr. Rockwell alert the FBI?

Had Mr. Rockwell become an FBI informant earlier than reported? Perhaps during a plea bargain that may have occurred in the wake of his 1982 conviction. Could he be linked to the CIA, and through them obtain the high level security clearances required of someone possessing the hardware he holds? In this case, was the FBI involved with the CIA, or duped by them, in a conspiracy to generate biological terrorism propaganda?

It was also suspicious that following three days of studying Mr. Harris's anthrax vaccine, CNN Headline News reported that U.S. Army researchers supporting the FBI's investigation, were uncertain of their test results. This is particularly strange given that anthrax is an easy germ to identify. Can you imagine the risk to U.S. forces in the Gulf if it took more than three days to confirm an anthrax attack? The cause of the delay was most likely to milk the story, the psychological warfare, for as long as necessary.

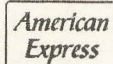
On the day that Kofi Annan's diplomat efforts were reported to have paid

off, CNN Headline News reported that the substance in Mr. Harris's possession was a harmless anthrax vaccine. This report virtually terminated the "ANTHRAX" story. American's breathed a sigh of relief for this and the renewed peace initiatives in the Gulf.

Conclusion

Anyway you look at it, the effect this predicted episode had on the public's mind, and fear level, was consistent with the effect of psychological warfare. Today the threat of domestic bioterrorism looms greater than ever not because of Larry Harris, but because of his manipulators.

Leonard G. Horowitz, D.M.D., M.A., M.P.H. is a Harvard graduate, independent investigator, and internationally known authority in public health education. One of healthcare's most captivating speakers, his book "Emerging Viruses: AIDS & Ebola—Nature, Accident or Intentional?" (Tetrahedron, Inc. 1998), is now a bestselling hardcover. This and other audio and videotapes by Dr. Horowitz are available through Preparedness Fare For further information call: (800) 393-8464.



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GOLD-Have We Finally Hit Bottom?

By Chris Temple

After gold bugs were disappointed that the huge debt binge of the 1980's failed to translate into anything other than one failed rally after another for precious metals, the 1990's seemed to offer new hope. Particularly with the election of Bill Clinton as president in 1992, many were led to believe that his presidency would provide a carbon copy of that of the previous Democratic Party President, Jimmy Carter. A wide variety of self-described "Christian," "patriotic" and "conservative" gurus quickly warned of impending doom for everyone except those who

confiscatable gold" or whatever the favorite euphemism is. These guys might be right--after all, even a stopped watch is right twice per day. I, too, think that gold may have finally bottomed; and that wise investors should be establishing careful, sensible positions now.

You must do so, however, with a clear head, and by looking at sensible, factual, unbiased information to gauge what chance(s) gold has to recover, what forms would be best to take advantage of any move and--most importantly--why you would want to invest in gold or related investments in the first place.

Gold's Characteristics

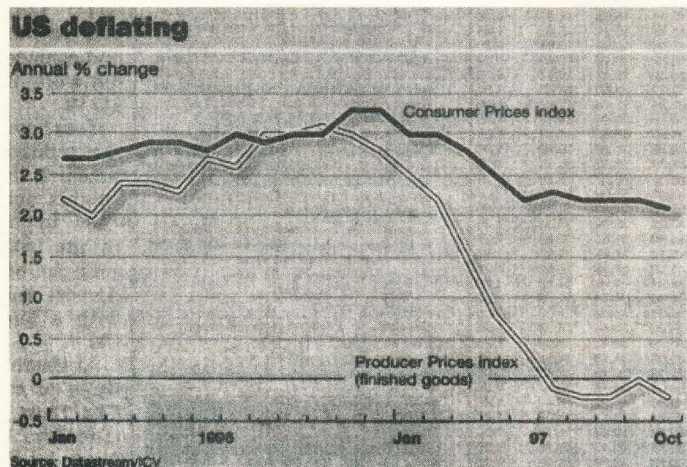
For starters, we must first realize that there are three main factors which determine gold's price: its supply-and-demand fundamentals as a commodity; its role as an inflation hedge, or "money" of last resort, and; its perceived value as a "safe haven" in times of crisis (whether related to inflation or not.)

I have often commented that the "handwriting on the wall" for gold could be observed as far back as the 1990 Gulf War. The first day, gold jumped by some \$20 per ounce, and the value of the U.S. dollar similarly rallied. A mere twenty-four hours later, however, this situation had reversed itself. Both gold and the dollar--each of which traditionally had been recognized as THE safe havens in the financial marketplace--gave back all their gains, and then some. Only the German mark, which at the time was the world's strongest major currency, enjoyed sustained gains during this time.

Since then, we've seen Boris Yeltsin bounce back and forth from near death to, most recently, threatening the U.S. on Iraq. We've had two major oil price spikes of several month's duration. We've witnessed Chinese saber-rattling towards both Japan and Taiwan.

We've even had the most cataclysmic international financial panic since the near-bankruptcy of Latin America nearly 20 years ago, in the form of last fall's implosion in Asian currencies and stock markets. This time, the price of gold inexplicably (at least where those still viewing precious metals in their traditional role are concerned) went down.

On the "inflation" front, the old adage that "a lie repeated often enough becomes the truth" is certainly apropos. The financial markets and the overwhelming majority of investors have become convinced that inflation is pretty much dead and buried. Even Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has seemed



were invested primarily in precious metals, which were sure to soar into the stratosphere now that Mr. Clinton was in the White House.

Those who knew better were also suspicious of the "New Democrat" Clinton, but for quite different reasons. As for what might befall the economy, though, a number of factors--monetary and otherwise--pointed to a much different scenario under Bill Clinton than the one some were predicting. The result has been an environment for financial assets (i.e. stocks, bonds, mutual funds and the like) that has been generally quite rosy. On the other hand, the environment for many tangible assets has been less so, and most acutely for gold. The yellow metal, at a recent price around \$280 per ounce, is at its lowest point since 1979.

On cue, precious metals salesmen are now pointing out to you that you need to drop everything you're doing and jump with both feet into gold. The pitches, faxes, phone calls and the like are coming hot and heavy, unanimously telling you that gold has finally bottomed and that you must immediately contact them (and pay the outrageous commissions many charge) to buy your "survival gold," "non-

puzzled--yet guardedly hopeful--over the fact that the U.S. economy has managed to grow strongly, create jobs and lower unemployment, all while the government's published inflation rates are running at lows not seen in over a decade.

The news here is not all as good as it seems. Low published inflation rates here and abroad have hidden what is otherwise a rapid increase in money supplies virtually everywhere. In great measure, the move towards so-called "free trade" in the world--which serves to help keep a lid on prices in developed countries like the U.S. due to the competition from cheap, coolie-labor made products--has enabled policy makers and central bankers to get away with wildly inflating their monetary bases. This may not last forever--and at some future point, the inflation genie may be loosed again. But for now--right or wrong--the sentiment in the markets is that inflation is a non-issue.

The combination of these and related events has caused even the central bankers themselves to shun gold, along with investors. The yellow metal has increasingly become viewed by many of them as an archaic, senseless investment which simply costs the bank interest that it could be earning if the reserves were invested instead in "performing" or interest-bearing assets.

Much of gold's declines over the last two years (virtually each step of which, if I may add, was predicted by yours truly in *The National Investor*) were caused or exacerbated by announcements of either real or intended sales of the yellow metal by central banks of various countries. The most damaging of these was last fall's announcement by the Swiss central bank that it would be incrementally selling gold to finance a \$5 billion fund for "Holocaust survivors" and certain others, and that they intend at some future point to seek a change removing the gold standard provision from the Swiss Constitution. Coming at the same time, though, as Asia started to unravel, it proved a double-whammy to gold prices, which proceeded to plunge down to their recent lows.

Today--whether we like it or not--gold is merely a commodity, just like coffee, lead, soybeans or cattle. This is a chief reason why the Asian debacle actually proved to be a negative; if fears of deflation came true and people in Asia and elsewhere reduced their purchases of gold jewelry and such, the reduced demand IS, in fact, a pressure on prices.

Unlike silver--which has enjoyed a recent run to 10-year highs of \$7.00 per ounce, largely as Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway accumulated a huge position that was announced to markets on February 3--gold does not have a current supply

deficit, unlike what some may have been telling you. It is true that mine output for the last few years has not been meeting new demand; but this has been more than offset by the increasing volume of central bank sales.

WHAT HAS TO HAPPEN TO TURN GOLD AROUND?

For starters, gold's supply/demand equation must improve sufficiently to attract the kind of serious investors who recently seized on silver's fundamental value. The first step toward this end has been taking place: a number of major gold mines throughout the world have been shutting down due to gold's low price, removing a small but growing portion of production.

At the same time, fears of all-out deflation due to Asia's economic troubles must dissipate. Though its effects have often been overstated, demand for gold from the developing economies of Asia has been an important part of the picture for gold. An intensifying of Asia's economic troubles would be bearish for gold, as such an event would further reduce demand.

Additionally, we must see a sustained move of capital out of U.S. dollars and dollar-denominated assets. Three years ago, I predicted that the dollar's malaise was over, and that our currency would enjoy a run against other major currencies. This has happened--and it has also been bearish for gold for two reasons. First, since gold is denominated in dollars, its attraction versus the dollar has been lessened. For investors in most foreign lands buying gold in their local currencies, the damage hasn't been as great (and some have profited.) For us, the story has been bleak.

Related to this has been the dollar's attraction itself as a "safe haven." Investors fleeing Asia's recent troubles, for instance, had no use for gold--but made a mad dash into dollars and U.S. Treasury bonds.

The dollar must lose some luster in order for gold to have any chance to rally significantly. This won't happen right away: however, a number of factors currently suggest to me that the coming Euro might start out as a stronger currency than I had previously thought possible. This spring, the new European central bank will announce to what extent it will hold gold reserves to ostensibly "back" the new currency; if the surprise is in favor of a large gold stash, this would especially benefit gold. Better yet for gold would be if the Euro is postponed, an event which would most likely be caused by the need to first address Europe's own "Millennium Bug" troubles. Such a move would strengthen the German mark against the dollar, and also likely help gold.

Speaking of the Year 2000 computer bug, its

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GOLD - Have We Finally Hit Bottom? continued...

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possible effects on the price of gold are presently unknown. A total blowout in the world economy could once again cause a rush to physical gold as one possible monetary alternative. But on the other hand, limited troubles--which would see the basic monetary infrastructure left intact but possibly cause a recession-- would be additionally bearish for gold.

Finally, we need to see inflationary pressures come more to the surface than they have. The plutocrats who engineer the world economy are trying very hard to keep this from happening; as I stated above, this has been a chief reason why free trade policies have been pushed. Strong monetary stimulation and increasing wage and price pressures may not be able to be contained forever, though--and if investors suddenly begin to realize that the so-called "Goldilocks Economy" is a mirage, sentiment could quickly change back in favor of hard assets, including gold.

HOW SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?

I am increasingly convinced that gold's decline is over, though possible new deflation fears and additional central bank sales still constitute threats. It may be some time still before a positive picture emerges for gold, but it is not too early to begin taking some sensible positions in this sector. Following are a few general do's and don'ts (I expand on these greatly and offer several specific investment recommendations on my more comprehensive report mentioned at the end of this article):

1. Keep gold in its proper perspective. Many investors have made the mistake--especially at much higher prices than those

currently--of investing a disproportionate amount of their savings in gold. Particularly when it comes to possible "survival" needs, gold (which for these purposes should be ONLY in the form of bullion or circulated U.S. coinage) is only one of many possible commodities/monies to barter with--and it is by no means



the best. Silver is preferable for these purposes. I have often quipped, but actually quite seriously, that I would rather have a good supply of tobacco and whiskey on hand to use as money in an economic meltdown than I would a supply of gold.

2. Be very careful where so-called "rare coins" are concerned. Too many investors have been burned by slick-talking promoters who have told them that the best way to own physical gold is by having uncirculated U.S. gold coins.

It is true that--for those wishing the privacy of physical ownership of gold--there is much more historical profit potential by properly investing in uncirculated U.S. gold coinage than in bullion. But be careful--most of the promoters out there trying to sell you these coins charge exorbitant commissions, which must first be

overcome before YOU have made a nickel. (I regularly make the current, wholesale prices for these types of coins available to subscribers to The National Investor, so they'll know what is a "fair price" to pay.)

3. Understand WHY you want to invest in gold. As I've alluded to already, gold is merely a commodity, and is NOT the only/best form of "survival money" available (for example, I much prefer that people on the local level especially look into starting an interest-free, community currency similar to the hugely successful Ithaca HOURS program in upstate New York. For information on this, visit their web site at <http://www.lightlink.com/hours/ithaca/hours>.)

To best profit if gold were to enter a bull market, the best way for the average investor to do so historically has been to own shares in gold mining stocks. Profits generally are much greater here than in owning physical gold, since price increases in the metal itself have an exponential effect on mining company profitability. VERY careful selection is needed, though; and unless you have a significant amount to spread among several companies, you're best off investing in one of the better precious metals mutual funds.

Readers of Preparedness Journal can obtain a copy of Chris Temple's comprehensive report on the Precious Metals Markets--including several specific investment recommendations--as well as copies of the three most current issues of his newsletter for only \$25.00. Order by sending your payment to: The National Investor, 445 Main St., Kalispell, MT 59901. To order by VISA or Master Card, call 1-800-201-7892, ext. 80.

Royal Raymond Rife- Who Was This Man?

By Robert Houchins

Get ready for a shock. I urge you to keep an open mind and reserve judgment until you read all the facts. This is the true story of the use of deceit, arson, sabotage and murder to deliberately bury what doctors called "the end to all disease."

The scientist, Royal Raymond Rife discovered that the unique electronic signature of each specific disease, can be modified to eliminate nearly every affliction known to man—rapidly and harmlessly. The distinguished medical doctors who originally confirmed part or all of this claim included: E.C. Rosenow, Sr. (Chief of Bacteriology, 32 yrs., at Mayo Clinic), Frederic Koch (Detroit, Brazil), Gaston Naessens (Quebec), Sakae Inoue (Japan), George Mazet (France), Franz Gerlach (Germany), Niello Mori and Clara Fonti (Italy), Cameron Gruner (McGill University), T.J. Glover (Canada), Florence Seibert (V.A. Research Lab, Bay Pines, Fla.), Irene Diller (Institute of Cancer Research, Phila., Penn), Eleanor Alex Jackson and Virginia Livingston (NJ and San Diego clinics).

The University of Southern California sponsored a special medical research team years ago, to evaluate this electronic therapy on the terminally ill. An initial success rate of 87.5% was recorded. After some improvements were made on the treatments, all 16 patients in the study, had recovered without side effects of any kind after 130 days. The medical team which evaluated the therapy for the University of Southern California included: Rufus Klein-Schmidt (President, University of Southern California), Milbank Johnson (then President of the southern Calif. AMA), Arthur Kendall (Director, Northwestern Medical School), Edward Kopps (Metabolic Clinic, La Jolla), George Fischer (Children's Hospital, NY), Karl Meyer (Hooper Foundation, San Francisco), Whalen Morrison (Chief Surgeon, Santa Fe Railway), George Dock.


The gifted scientist Royal Raymond Rife truly had discovered the cure for deadly disease. His treatments were based upon a mechanical application of frequency to the body. Other medical treatments were either biological or chemical in nature and depended on the body's own immune system to heal the sickness. In reality a sick person has a very poor

immune system or one that is temporarily losing the battle. Rife's discoveries took the burden of healing off the body and left only the task of removing the dead disease from the systems. Rife's work was so astonishing that he was awarded 14 government contracts to develop practical uses for his discoveries of specific frequency. Rife discovered that any disease can be eliminated with frequencies based on its individual electromagnetic signature. One of his projects was to eliminate the diseases that were plaguing the poultry industry. He treated an entire flock of chickens and made them disease free. One government contract requested that he destroy the bacteria in fossil fuels so that our national reserve of gas and oil would not spoil and could be stored indefinitely without being replaced every few months. Think of the money that would be saved by the American public. Alas, Richard Nixon announced that his friends in the oil industry would never have to worry about Rife hurting their business and had his inventions destroyed.

Royal Raymond Rife was perhaps the most brilliant and persistent scientist in history. What follows is a brief description of how he developed this remarkable technology. Where technology didn't exist, Rife invented it, such as the first microdissectors, micromanipulators, and heterodyning ultraviolet microscopes. He won 14 government awards for scientific discoveries, and a medical degree (honorary) from the University of Heidelberg. Millionaires like Henry Timken (owner of Timken Bearings) financed Rife's work, such as the Universal Microscope, with 5,682 parts. With this superb microscope, Royal Raymond Rife became the first human being to actually see a living virus in its natural color. After nearly 20,000 unsuccessful attempts, Rife finally isolated and identified the human cancer virus, and named it "Cryptocides Primordiales." Rife inoculated 400 lab animals with this virus, created 400 tumors, and then eliminated them. He did the same with many other diseases. The discoveries of Rife were presented to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington and the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia along with the instruments

Continued on page 24

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Royal Raymond Rife continued...

Continued from page 23

used. This is all chronicled in "The Cancer Cure That Worked," a book written by Barry Lynes in 1987.

How did Rife's instruments eliminate so many different afflictions? For decades, Rife painstakingly identified the precise energetic signature unique to each disease, using spectroscopic microscopes. By exposing disease organisms to destructive resonance derived from their own unique pattern of oscillation, Rife discovered he could destroy them by the millions in seconds. Every biochemical compound oscillates at its own distinct frequency pattern. Therefore, every living thing has its own unique electromagnetic signature, and this pattern is unlike any other species or organism.

After decades of research, Rife isolated the patterns, modified them and used them to kill the microbes that produced them. Just as the resonant frequency which shatters a wine glass can

only shatter that type of glass, so Rife's frequencies destroy only disease organisms with the exact same pattern of oscillation. Therefore, Rife therapy is one of the very few therapies known to be free of any side effect.

This is in contrast to any synthetic drug, whose unnatural chemistry eventually produces such damaging side effects as impotence, high blood pressure, hair loss, and damage to heart, kidneys, and immune system. If history is any indication, the drug industry will stop at nothing to eliminate any threat to its profits. I believe that it will use every ounce of its political muscle to restrict sale of Rife instruments before customers find them far more effective than drugs.

Now why would the medical industry destroy a cure for disease? The cartel was alarmed that their customers might abandon drugs for a far more effective cure that costs only pennies in electricity to use. This would eliminate

profits of nearly a billion dollars a week for the drug industry. How long do you think it would ignore such a threat? The answer is, not long. After a preliminary "offer you can't refuse" made by Morris Fishbein (the President of the American Medical Association), to buy the miraculous discoveries, Rife refused to sell out and tried to bring his electronic cures to the people.

This is what happened to Rife and his astonishing electronic therapy: First, arsonists burned the Burnett Lab in New Jersey, which was validating Rife's work. Then, someone fatally poisoned Dr. Millbank Johnson, president of the Southern California American Medical Association. He died hours before a press conference where he was to announce to the world that Rife's electronic therapy had cured every patient (16 out of 16) in the medical study supervised by the University of Southern California. (First thought to be accidental death, the poison

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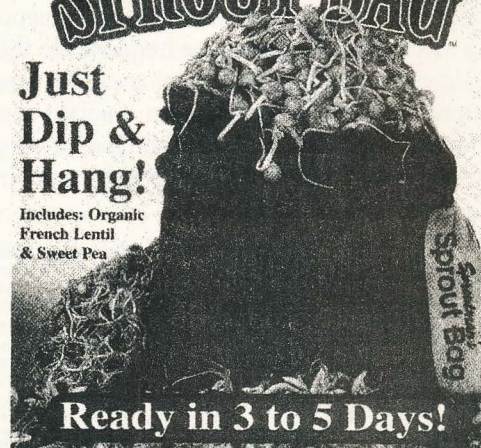
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was discovered years later by federal investigators when Dr. Johnson's body was exhumed). Dr. Nemens, who had duplicated some of Rife's work just 40 miles from Rife's lab, was killed in a mysterious fire which destroyed his lab. Rife himself was finally killed at Grossmont Hospital by an "accidental" lethal dose of Valium.

Following Dr. Milbank Johnson's murder, threats, and a string of other incidents, doctors who had actually been photographed with Rife denied they ever met him. Dr. Isaac Kendall, Rife's chief research associate and Dean of Northwestern Medical School, disappeared for years after receiving \$200,000 in "grants."

By now you are probably saying to yourself, "But this is crazy! Are you saying that after all these doctors proved there is a harmless electronic method to rapidly eliminate all this pain and suffering, the medical profession didn't use it?" Maybe you think that hospitals would want it. But why would hospital administrators be interested in anything that costs pennies to use, and keeps people out of the hospital? Remember - conventional therapy keeps a patient in bed at \$600 a day (for the bed). And hospitals can bill a cancer patient \$200,000 if he has insurance. Okay, then how about research foundations or teaching institutions? Wrong. Who wants a cure that eliminates hundreds of millions of dollars in grants along with the diseases it eliminates? Even the billion dollar insurance industry could be eliminated by the discovery of a simple, inexpensive cure for most illnesses.

First, understand that the drug industry supports the medical journals almost entirely with its advertising. It kept Rife's electronic therapy out of the journals merely by threatening to pull its ads from any one publishing it. Meanwhile, the regular news media naively assumes that if anyone had such a versatile cure, the proper authorities would tell them. But health care is just too profitable. Those whose livelihood depends on treating disease are often quick to mislead those who ask about anything that might replace

their services. Even using beneficial herbs or vitamins is often branded quackery.

If you discovered a cheap and harmless method of eliminating nearly every incurable disease, what would you expect? Medicine's highest awards? It's more likely that your discovery would be received as heresy for challenging orthodox views and authority. Pasteur, for example, was ridiculed and reviled, until medicine finally accepted his germ theory of disease. And before him, Semmelweis was hounded to death merely for claiming that 19th century surgeons might be killing patients by operating with dirty hands. Other visionaries who were discredited and roasted over a pit in a "medical inquisition" were Roentgen for discovering X-rays, Morton for Ether anesthesia, and Harvey for claiming that blood circulates! And now that health care is the nation's largest industry, anything that eliminates all illness will be highly unpopular with a lot of folks whose services become unnecessary.

The following are just a few of the distinguished medical doctors harassed and persecuted in recent years for discoveries that threatened the health care industry: Doctors Revici, Burzynski, Livingston, Ivy, Burton, W.F. Koch, Coley, Glover, Lincoln, Priore and Naessens, a scientist. There is a tragic story behind each of these names: Dr. Koch was killed by arsenic injected in his toothpaste. Perhaps now you understand that any true cure for cancer, diabetes, arthritis and other diseases must always be suppressed for the status quo to continue. It's just like war: millions of people suffer and die because it's so very profitable for others.

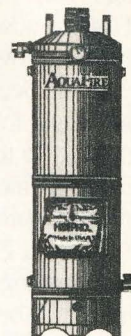
The story you are reading is one of the most fascinating and horrifying tales ever told. Can you imagine the good that these discoveries would bring to mankind. Rife's discoveries were announced and made public in the 1930's Royal Raymond Rife died in the 1970's a broken man. All record of his work has been erased from the archives of the newspapers and the scientific community.

This electronic technology was buried for years, recently resurrected, and is once again available. But if such an electronic device exists, then where is it,

Continued on page 26

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Royal Raymond Rife continued...

Continued from page 25

and why hasn't your doctor told you? First, because doctors can't use it until it's FDA approved. You can only use it on yourself. Second, until it's FDA approved, it's illegal for doctors or anyone using a product to tell you that it cures anything. Even if medical studies show that a product cures everything, those who say so without FDA approval can be charged with making "fraudulent medical claims," and "mislabeling."

Well, then why not get FDA approval for this therapy? Primarily because bringing a product to market with FDA approval costs \$234 million. That's only about 3 days of earnings for the drug cartel, but considerably more pocket change than you carry. So unless you can spare 234 million dollars for FDA approval, the rules are rigged to maintain the drug industry's monopoly on health care.

Fortunately, a few dedicated doctors and engineers worked together to reconstruct and resurrect Rife's technology after his death. Like Rife, they too have experienced sabotage incidents, and have mostly gone underground to stay in business. Rife instruments are currently available to the public. But, until FDA approval for the medical profession (at a cost of \$243 million plus) they can only be used for experimental use. That means you can experiment on yourself, pets, lab animals, cell cultures, etc.

Despite sabotage and restrictions on use by the medical profession, these first true "Rife" instruments had such astonishing success that dozens of unqualified engineers are now selling their own versions of the original technology. Unfortunately these "knock-offs" have only marginal results. These engineers tried to reconstruct the technology without the benefit of Rife's concepts and 40 years of research. Several manufacturers have succeeded in replicating Rife's work by using the original discoveries of Rife. They protected their designs against knock-offs with insoluble epoxy, relabeled chips, PALs, unreadable programming, radiant

coatings, etc. There is also tremendous variation in the cost of Rife instruments. Some outrageously priced ("all the market will bear" type) versions are actually much less effective than some modestly priced brands.

My mission is to inform the public that an electronic cure for most afflictions may exist, and that it was illegally suppressed to protect the drug industry. Furthermore, anyone who wishes to know the truth can simply see for himself by obtaining a true Rife instrument for investigational use. In the final analysis, the only way to know if such a remarkable therapy actually exists is to experience it firsthand. Not another rigged double-blind trial, whose conclusion is paid for and dictated in advance by vested interests, but a trial conducted by the one impartial sponsor who has nothing to lose by learning the truth, yourself.

If you think that someday you'll need a Rife instrument, get one now while you still can. But examine the features of each brand carefully. Cost is misleading; some modestly priced Rife instruments can outperform those which cost 2 to 4 times more. A really good one only costs around \$2,500. At the other extreme are

cheap modified frequency generators or instruments that use electrocution (AC or DC Current), which were never intended to be Rife instruments and are too inaccurate to hold frequencies.

Several years ago I had a great need for the discoveries of Rife when my wife was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. Through extensive and intensive research I discovered the truth about Bio-Active Frequency, the use of precise frequency to eliminate disease. Today my wife is cancer free because of Rife. I cannot recommend one brand over another, but I have discovered some reputable companies with instruments that meet very high standards. Infinitech, Astropulse, Naturetronics, and Electromagic. Only use a company that will give a money-back guarantee. The manufacturer should have enough confidence in their product that they will stand behind its quality and performance. Buy the proper equipment and you'll see it can achieve what is considered impossible by any other means.

Space limits what I can discuss in this article but if you wish more detailed information on the life and discoveries of Royal Raymond Rife, feel free to write or call: Robert Houchins, 100 S. Trooper Rd., Jeffersonville, PA 19403; (610-539-6965).

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Hot Topics Update: The Quick Check-Bad Check

As Executive Director of Gun Owners of America, I recently had the opportunity to debate the Majority Whip of the Alabama House of Representatives, Rep. Jack Page (D). If you have never heard of him, please do not ignore what this state version of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) has to say.

First of all, the gun control bill which Rep. Page was sponsoring was backed by the NRA. Secondly, the legislation is being promoted all around the country. You see, Rep. Page was sponsoring an Alabama version of the Brady law. Now admittedly, the bill would do away with the state's waiting period. But that relief is more than overcome by the Brady instant registration check that would be imposed if the bill were to become law.

Instant check will register all gun buyers

Rep. Page's Alabama Brady Bill requires the state to share with other federal and state law enforcement agencies "any information in the files of the [Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center - (ACJIC)] which will aid these agencies in crime fighting." The prohibitions in existing law that keep bureaucrats from storing gun owners' names are not that effective, as we have seen in Ohio, Georgia, Texas and other states.

One of the arguments in favor of passing state versions of the Brady Law is that it is preferable to have Alabama bureaucrats check us out than to have the feds do it. The thinking seems to be that if I am oppressed by somebody with the same accent, it is less oppressive than federal oppression. But these arguments notwithstanding, it is clear that the states will not be able to "preempt" the feds and keep them from performing background checks on law-abiding gun owners.

BATF makes it clear: shotguns and rifles fall under Brady instant check.

The BATF issued proposed regulations for implementation of the national instant registration check in the Federal Register in February of this year. As these regulations suggest, the names of firearms purchasers (both handgun and long-run) must be submitted to the FBI, irrespective of any additional bureaucratic requirements at the state level. Under these regulations, the feds will give themselves up to

three days to respond. Were we not supposed to be getting rid of the waiting period? So much for dancing with the devil.

Moreover, through such computer programs as FIST, the U.S. Justice Department has given software to local law enforcement allowing them to build a database of gun purchasers. The feds reportedly get monthly reports from local law enforcement agencies on the disposition of Brady checks. While the local computer is connected to Washington, the federal computer can "lookback" (computerese for looking into the local's computer) and copy the entire database — all the names, addresses and firearms of gun purchasers. The City of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University were caught setting up just such a program and were stopped in court. But FIST is alive and well and quite capable of supplying the feds with a national registration list.

The BATF has stated in the Federal Register (February 19, 1998) that for the Brady law to work for them, they want the Social Security number of gun buyers in addition to other personal data they are already getting. They also want to do the instant registration checks on ALL gun buyers (both handgun and long-gun) regardless of whether their state has a state Brady law, and to track all these records with a unique identification number.

In Alabama, the ACJIC has admitted that their unique identification number would have to include name and address, social security number and date of birth. Do they need anything else for a registration list? Does the BATF?

Brady Law doesn't get criminals off the street

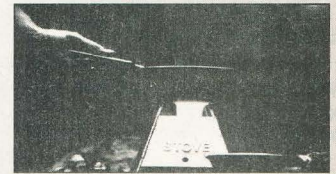
Brady defenders claim that all this information on citizens is needed to keep guns out of the "wrong hands." But the truth of the matter is that this law was never intended to incarcerate felons who attempt to buy firearms. The Department of Justice (DOJ) admitted as much in a letter to Senator John Kyl (R-AZ), stating that the Brady "statute was not primarily intended as a prosecutive mechanism." In other words, the law was never meant to prosecute real felons and put them behind bars. Rather, says the DOJ, "The Brady law fully serves its purpose when it succeeds in thwarting the acquisition of a firearm." But what if the "felon" simply walks out the door and buys a gun down the street?

Brady defenders claim the law stopped 40,000 people from buying a gun during the law's first year of operation, even though the actual number incarcerated was only three. Ohio's Attorney General, Betty Montgomery, testified to this very irony in the law on June 30, 1997: In 1996, 60,037 people went to licensed gun dealers to purchase handguns. Of that figure, 327 — less than one half of one percent — were denied because of a disqualifying factor....[W]hile we were able to keep 327 people from getting a handgun at point A — each of them was able to purchase a rifle or handgun the very same day at point B. To our knowledge, under the Brady act, not a single one of the 327 people who falsified the form and tried to purchase a handgun illegally have been prosecuted by the U.S. Justice Department.

Taxpayers in Ohio spent almost a million dollars and what did they get? Not one person was even prosecuted. Not one criminal was

Continued on page 36

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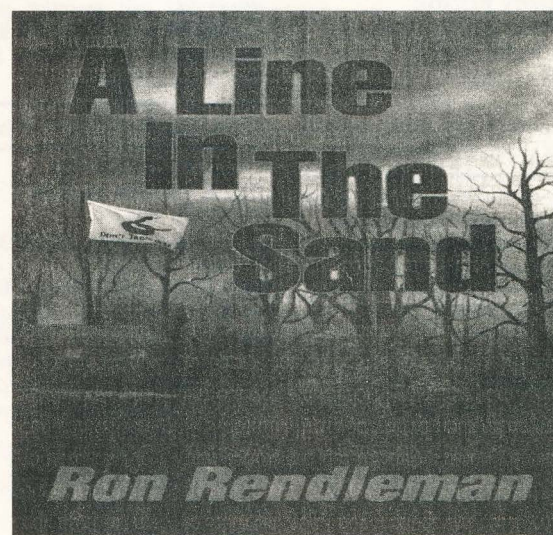
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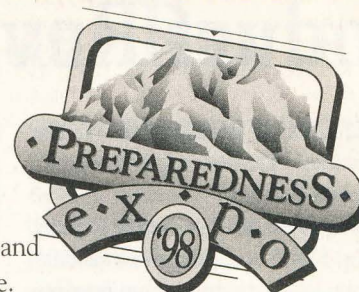
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THE SECRET LIFE OF BILL CLINTON: The unreported stories

By Ambrose Evans-Prichard

(Book, hardcover, 457 pages. Published by Regency Publishing, Inc. \$24.95 at all better book stores)

If you follow the main stream press you may have caught a glimpse of the stories covered in this book. If you have been to the PREPAREDNESS EXPOs around the country when Terry Reed has spoken, you know far more of some of these stories. However, the main stream press generally doesn't want to tell the stories that would embarrass their buddy boy, Bill Clinton.

Ambrose Evans-Prichard has covered the ground on these stories as a reporter for several of England's "main stream" newspapers including The Sunday Telegraph and the Daily Telegraph. Educated at Cambridge, he is a respected journalist on the other side of the Atlantic. His work in this book is accompanied by three appendices and an index. There is nothing shoddy about this work. He talked to many, many of the people involved in these stories and pulled no punches in reporting what he found. If you want to know what the main stream press does not want you to know, this book is for you.

Basically this book is broken down into three sections: The Oklahoma Bombings, Vince Foster and Come to Arkansas.

The Oklahoma section, "Our Common Ground" contains seven chapters: "The Resurrection of President Clinton," "Glenn and Kathy Wilburn," "John Doe Two," "Elohim City and Dennis the Menace," "Carol Howe," "Lt. Andreas Strassmeir" and "The Aryan Republican Army."

To give you an idea of the authors approach to this material, I will give you a short quote regarding how the author felt about the

Federal governments handling of the McVeigh trial. Keep in mind that both Clinton and Janet Reno promised America that the investigation would be a show piece and fully open. "...the prosecution withheld material from the defence that was exculpatory or impeached the credibility of government witness...It also told a series of demonstrable lies that will be enumerated in this book. If this is how the Justice Department behaves in a high profile case after the President and Attorney General have both made explicit promises of transparency, I dread to think of how it conducts itself when nobody is paying attention." The author then spends the next 110 pages filling the reader in on the facts, as he sees them, regarding the Oklahoma City bombing. No, this is not a rehash of the McVeigh trial nor does he defend McVeigh. Was the government warned in advance about the bombing? Read what their own informant, Carol Howe, has to say and decide for yourself.

The next section covers the Vince Foster incident and is subtitled, "The Most Ethical Administration in the History of the Republic." That statement or promise was made by William Clinton in November of 1992.

The most thought provoking chapter to me, in this section dealt with a "neck wound." The chapter opens with dialogue from a witness that states that there was no exit wound and that there was a neck wound. Details of the investigation are revealed that lead the reader to believe that, at best it was highly incompetent and at worst it was a rubber stamp cover up. For example the original crime scene photos were "lost" and only poor copies were available.

(It is truly amazing to me how much evidence, in Federal investigations, is "lost." The list is nearly

endless. If the ability to file information were used to judge these agencies I would be surprised if the staff can find its way to work each day.) The neck wound chapter alone makes this book an eye opener.

The final section, titled "Come to Arkansas" covers Clinton's early days as Governor of Arkansas. Oliver North, The Contras, Bill Clinton, Mena Airport and drug smuggling are just part of what is covered in this section. The death of the two boys on the train tracks is covered as well.

I highly recommend this book. It reads like an overly ruthless soap opera, yet the author backs up his findings very well. Share this book with a liberal friend. My copy has opened a few eyes.

GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA

(Nonprofit organization founded to protect gun owners rights. Membership dues are a minimum of \$20.00 per year. GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA, Department PJ, 8001 Forbes Place, Suite 102, Springfield, VA 22151, phone 703-321-8585, Fax 703-321-8408)

In my opinion, of all the pro-gun organizations out there, Gun Owners of America runs the tightest ship. I am not condemning the others, I belong to most of them and they are all doing important work. However, the focus of GOA is your second amendment right. No hunting, selfdefence, or gun safety are featured in the newsletter. Instead it focuses on where your rights are being threatened and by whom. For those of you who are interested in doing your share to save your constitutional second amendment rights, yet don't have the time to follow all the issues this organization is for you.

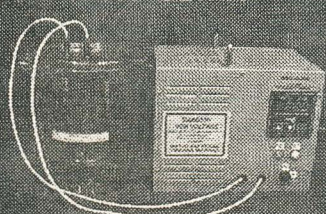
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only eight pages long. Yet it contains an article that reveals the United Nations backdoor attempt to impose gun control on America. Enclosed in the mailing were cards that can be sent to your Congressman requesting that he or she support and cosponsor H.R. 1146. This bill is designed to get the United States of America out of the UN. The issue also contained a copy of a letter, written by Executive Editor Larry Pratt to all Representatives and Senator in Washington, debunking the outlandish claims made by the anti-gun lobby concerning the Brady bill.

Wait, there is more. There are State Bulletins alerting readers of issues that are particular to one state. In addition, there is a COSPONSOR WATCH that alerts the reader of PRO-GUN bills and who is cosponsoring them. For example the current issue contains information on H.R. 27, Citizen's Self-Defence Act which affirms the right to self defence, and it lists who is cosponsoring the resolution. Additionally, H.R. 1009, States' Rights & Second Amendment & Tenth Amendment Restoration Act of 1997 and H.R.1147, Second Amendment Act of 1997 are covered complete with a listing of who is sponsoring the act. I learned that my congressman was not on the list of any of these acts. However, the Congressman in the district to the south was. Two letters went out, one thanking Congressman

Cannon for his support, one to Congressman Cook asking him to get on board.

In addition to informing you of pro-gun bills GOA also warns you of anti-gun legislation. One such bill, I am sorry to say, is from my own Senator Orrin Hatch, (rapidly becoming known locally as Orrin Kennedy). This is S.10, the Juvenile Crime Bill and like other "Crime Bills," this one will make "Crime" where none existed before. Under this bill, if you take your underage child shooting, and that child does not have a written note of permission on his person from you, his parent, you are guilty of a crime. I'll save the Managing Editor the effort of editing out words that are unprintable in describing my feelings towards my formerly conservative, Senator and just say I am disgusted by his actions.

WE THE PEOPLE; divided we fall, united we stand. Men like Larry Pratt at GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA are doing so much for us. Please support the effort, join GOA and spend a few hours a month writing your representatives. I have had the pleasure of meeting Larry Pratt. I have heard him speak at the PREPAREDNESS EXPOS, I have listened to his tapes, read his book and was instrumental in getting him on the local Talk Radio station. Larry has written articles for the PREPAREDNESS JOURNAL over the years. You just could not place your trust in a better man. It does count, it does add up.

SET UP & SOLD OUT: FIND OUT WHAT GREEN REALLY MEANS

By Holly Swanson

(Book, soft bound, 322 pages. Available at 1 (800) 684-1992, Price is \$14.95 plus shipping and handling)

The topic of environment is becoming more and more controversial. On the one hand there are those who would have us believe that cow flatulence will kill us all, and on the other, there are those who totally disregard respect for the environment. Many people buy into the assumption that there must be truth in what the "Greens" say about global warming. After all these are non-profit organizations filled with people who care about the earth. There is no profit motive involved. These people must be altruistic people looking out for my best interests, right?

If the above paragraph reflects your views on this subject, please, please, please get a copy of this book. The Green Movement represents one of, if not the, most dangerous movements against your rights and freedoms today. I say this not because I just read this excellent book. I say this because this book reflects, in one source, much of what I have found in my own study of this subject. This book is an excellent starting point in discovering the details of what is, in my opinion, a

Continued on page 34

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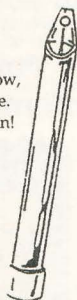
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This book takes a hard look at where the United States is headed. Military analyst Tom Chittum's down-to-earth look at economic, political and social trends in the United States does not paint a pretty picture, but it's realistic. In short, America is headed toward either becoming an imperialistic police state in which there is little or no freedom of the kind Americans have traditionally valued, or - more likely - it is going to collapse in a civil war that will divide the country along racial lines. Take an in-depth look at these dangerous trends in *Civil War II*. Learn why America is headed for trouble, how this deadly war - already in its formative stage - is shaping up, and what you can do to protect yourself and your family.

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Continued from page 33

covert operation against American rights and freedoms. The "GREENS" are to your rights what Kool-Aid was to Jonestown, a palatable poison.

Don't get me wrong, I am very much in favor of preserving the environment. In college I took many botany and ecology classes. I have actually worked in the field on Environmental Impact Statements as a professional Archeologist. I care enough about the world to be involved with its preservation. I paid and worked for an education that I thought would allow me to make a difference. Thus, I am angry with the "GREENS" not only because they are attacking my rights as a citizen, but because they have radicalized and warped a legitimate cause to serve their own interests.

Many, if not all, of the individuals at the bottom of the pecking order of the "GREEN" movement are legitimately concerned citizens. Many of those at the top of the pecking order, in my opinion, could care less about the environment. Does that sound radical? Let's take a look at Al Gore. Here is what he says: "The Federal Government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world, and we are committed to using that massive purchasing power to spur markets for environmental technologies, save taxpayer's money and lead by example." (Earth Times, June 1994). Here is what he does: Al Gore just returned from Japan where he voiced concern about greenhouse gases. He was flown there in a private government jet which expended over 400,000 pounds of jet fuel. If Al Gore cared about greenhouse gases, could he have not flown a commercial flight? I bet the old White House Travel staff could have arranged it. Could it be that "GREEN" rules only apply to the peasants or "Human Scavengers" as Al refers to people in his book. In my opinion this "GREEN" Fearless leader is more of a peerless feeder.

The "GREEN" movement is not about just your rights, it is also about your religion and your children. That is correct. They want your children to be green and worship mother earth. Space does not allow me to go into detail on every aspect of this book. However, the book goes into great detail about the history of the "GREENS", who they are, what they want and how they intend to get it. The book warns you about how the "GREENS" are using your children and it helps you

recognize the signs of which to beware. SET UP AND SOLD OUT was written to give you a basic understanding of the "GREEN" movement, to wake you up to a very real danger. It is filled with quotations from the "GREENS" such as, "The environmental movement promises to bring greater numbers into our orbit than the peace movement ever did." This was said by Carl Bloice, a leading U.S. Communist.

Are you a hunter, fisherman, rancher or hiker? The "GREENS" want to place the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Fish and Wildlife under the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. Much of the policy of the EPA is written by NGOs. What are NGOs? Non-Governmental Organizations. Who are the NGOs? THE GREENS. Do you want EARTH FIRST or FRIENDS OF ANIMALS writing hunting and fishing regulations? I'm sure they would like to. SET UP & SOLD OUT is the modern equivalent of Paul Revere. SET UP & SOLD OUT is a "must read."

GUNS, BULLETS, and GUNFIGHTS: Lessons and Tales From a Modern-Day Gunfighter
By Jim Cirillo

(Book, 119 pages, softbound. Available from PALADIN PRESS, Dept. PJ, P.O. Box 1307, Boulder, Colorado 80306. \$15.00 plus \$5.00 S&H)

Most of history's great gunfighters, on both sides of the law, left little information from a first hand perspective. What we know of their feelings and methods is anecdote or fable. Not so with Jim Cirillo. Mr. Cirillo lets the reader into his mind and memories in a very giving way. He separates macho from fact, admits his fears and shares his wisdom in an unselfish manner. To my mind this is the mark of a true professional who cares, about his fellow lawmen and honest citizens, enough to set ego aside and relate the facts as he knows them.

Mr. Cirillo won many shooting titles as a competitor. Unlike many of today's gun "experts," he has also survived 17 gunfights without a scratch. In addition he has been a shooting instructor since I was a kid. Thus he brings vast experience to this book as both a highly skilled marksman and instructor.

If you are only going to buy one book on self defence shooting, I would recommend that this

be the one. The author identifies much of the incorrect method conventionally taught from what has kept him alive, and presents it in a friendly easy to understand format.

Part 1—GUNS, contains Chapter One: Averting the Unintentional Shot and Chapter Two: Hybrid Weapons. Part 2—BULLETS, contains Chapter Three: The Two Primary Functions of Handgun Bullets and Chapter Four: Are Hollowpoints the Way to Go for Stopping Power? Part 3 has Chapter Five: Selection of a Gun Fighter. Chapter Six: Shooting for Score or Survival, Chapter Seven: Firearms Training and the Gunfight, Chapter Eight: Stress of the Gunfight and Chapter Nine: The Bizarre NYCPD Stakeout Squad.

Methods are taught in this book that may save your life. Many of these methods are not taught within the "conventional wisdom" of today's shooting scene. Remember, the author survived 17 gunfights with armed felons. Many at very close range. Who do you want to learn self defence skills

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from, Jim Cirillo or a trainer with a display case full of competition trophies?

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(Unique rifle sling. Available from Galco International Ltd., Department PJ, 2019 W. Quail Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85027. \$40.00 plus \$4.00 S&H, Catalog \$8.00, refundable with first order)

I don't believe a living soul knows who first developed the concept of the Ching Sling. It is known to have been used by the British during the last century. Jeff Cooper was shown a rifle with the third sling swivel, while on a South American hunt, and returned the concept to modern shooters. A member of Col. Cooper's staff at the renowned GUNSITE Fire Arms Training Center, Mr. S.H. Ching refined the sling to the present design.

Basically the Ching sling is a strap of the conventional type. It fastens to the rifle at the forearm and buttstock by means of sling swivels. However, it differs from the normal sling by the addition of a third sling swivel being mounted forward of the magazine. Thus the forearm now has two sling swivels. A second strap attaches to this third swivel and is fixed to the main strap by a steel fixture. An adjustable stop is on the main strap which prevents the second strap from sliding too far to the rear.

An opening is formed by the second strap and the main strap. The shooter's off hand is placed through this opening and the loop is pushed high up the off arm. The off hand is then wedged behind the frontmost sling swivel. This "locks" the rifle to the off arm. I find this "locking" adds more stability than a conventional sling. The Ching sling not only adds stability to shooting, it also makes the rifle more controllable while cycling the action. In addition, it is far faster to "sling up" using the Ching sling than it is to use the conventional sling.

I recently acquired my Ching sling for a Scout rifle that I had built on a Remington 600 in caliber .308. While I am still working on becoming proficient with my new Scout, I have fallen in love with the sling. The Ching sling has been popularized by the Scout rifle concept. However, I can see it being a very useful addition to any rifle. I would suggest that you use Millet's excellent "T" sling swivels. These swivels lack a conventional swivel stud. Instead of a protruding stud, the swivel uses a "T" shaped projection that inserts into a nearly flush mounted socket. The swivel is inserted against spring pressure and then twisted 45 degrees where it locks in place. This arrangement leaves the stock smooth to the hand when the sling is not in use.

The quality of the Galco sling matches that of their other products. That is to say outstanding. Galco offers absolutely top quality leather products. The sling is available in both natural tan and black latigo. All metal hardware has a durable black finish.

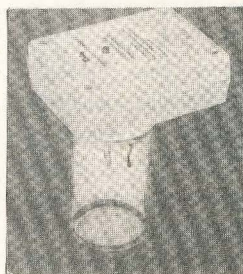
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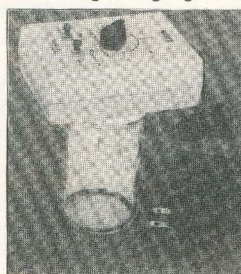
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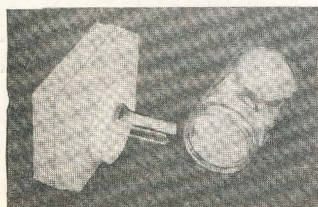
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Hot Topics Update: continued...

Continued from page 27

taken off the streets, despite the fact that it is a felony for a convicted felon to even attempt to purchase a firearm. The streets of Ohio are not one bit safer. In fact, the streets may actually be more dangerous since the police can no longer focus their attention on real crime fighting, but must now spend countless man hours scrutinizing honest citizens as if they were criminals.

Chiefs of police and sheriffs have overwhelmingly indicated that the Brady law is NOT making our neighborhoods any safer. The most recent poll conducted by the National Association of Chiefs of Police (NACOP) shows that a full 89 percent of these top cops agree that the Brady law has not prevented any criminal "from obtaining a firearm from illegal sources" in their area. The Brady registration check is NOT taking criminals off the street. Moreover, most of the people being denied firearms under the law are not even dangerous felons.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) admitted as much when it reported on the "effectiveness" of the Brady law in 1996. The GAO found that almost 50% of denials under Brady are erroneous — that is they were for administrative snafus or traffic violations. Why do the gun grabbers, when they are throwing around the supposed number of denials, never tell us that almost 40% of the denials are for administrative errors, like sending paperwork to the wrong department? Almost 10% of the people denied firearms are denied because of outstanding traffic tickets. Do you feel safer now?

The Brady registration check is NOT working the way its creators had claimed. But in one area, the law is working rather well. It is registering gun purchasers, despite prohibitions in the law.

From instant registration to gun confiscation?

Here are the details on some examples of Brady law abuses of gun owners that Gun Owners of America has learned about: Gun Owners of America has compiled clear evidence that some police officials in Texas are keeping the records of firearms purchases, in defiance of the Brady law. These records (taken from the Brady-mandated background checks) go back many months and have been used for purposes other than that for which they were intended, such as collecting fines or fees. These records

include the name, address and driver's license number of the gun owner.

In Ohio, the Attorney General's office admitted last year that Brady background checks have been used to register gun owners. Even though the (Ohio) administration would destroy all paper records after 20 days, they did "maintain computer logs of Brady-related inquiries for a period of one year" — in defiance of the Brady law.

One Georgia state representative, Brian Joyce (R), has uncovered evidence that the federal government is registering every gun owner nationwide who buys a firearm from a dealer. His investigation has found that whenever a background check request is made to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), "the computer knows that any given background check is for a gun purchase." Rep. Joyce notes that a code is sent with the request for information, and "thus a list is being created."

California's current travail illustrates the way governments use gun registration to violate the Constitution and break faith with the people. "Ugly" guns that were registered in the past are now being confiscated because Attorney General Dan Lungren decided to reclassify as illegal guns that had been "permitted" to be legal. California is only the most recent example of the bad faith of governments who have the names and addresses of gun owners in their possession. In New York City back in the 1960's, New York City officials made some promises. They wanted to register long guns over the vocal opposition of the city's gun owners. The city fathers promised they would never use such lists to take away firearms from the citizenry. But in 1991, the city banned (and soon began confiscating) many of those very guns. The Daily News reported in 1992 the "Police raided the home of a Staten Island man who refused to comply with the city's tough ban on assault weapons, and seized an arsenal of firearms....Spot checks are planned [for other homes]."

Is there not something wrong with this picture? In a country where "We, the people" are sovereign, how do we end up having the servants tell the masters when they can have permission to exercise their rights? The media would probably understand the Second Amendment problem with the Brady law if the Brady check were expanded to include the First Amendment. Then, before a

journalist could get his permit to practice his profession, a faceless bureaucrat would run a background check to see if he were the sort of person considered by the government to be worthy to enter the profession.

As I thought about my pending debate with Alabama state Representative Jack Page on the plane ride to Alabama, a comparison came to mind. Some thirty years ago, black people were considered to be potential trouble makers, particularly if they belonged to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The state of Alabama wanted the membership list of the NAACP and ended up going all the way to the Supreme Court to get their hands on the list. But, happily, the Court ruled against the state of Alabama and protected the privacy of the names of the NAACP members.

That's the good news. The bad news is that governments in our day increasingly consider gun owners to be potential trouble makers, and so we are seeing the efforts to get our names and addresses regardless of legal prohibitions. At least the state of Alabama was unable to get a chapter of the NAACP to hand over the membership list of the organization.

In our day, there are too many gun owners willing to do what no NAACP member would have dreamed of doing. We are watching gun owners rush to hand over the list of gun buyers which is exactly what they are doing when they support the Brady instant registration check at either the state or national levels.

Every aspect of the Brady law is unconstitutional and dangerous. Congress should repeal this law and stop hassling the states with ineffective crime-fighting ideas. In the meantime, smile, because big brother is watching you. If you would like to do more than smile, contact Gun Owners of America for some free information on how you can support Rep. Ron Paul's bill to repeal the Brady law (H.R. 2721) which also repeals the ugly gun ban and the sporting test Clinton is using to ban importation of "ugly" guns.

Call GOA toll free at 1-888-886-GUNS and choose option #2 to leave your name and address. Ask for the GOA analysis on H.R. 2721 and also for some postcards which will urge your Representative to co-sponsor Rep. Paul's bill. You can also ask for this information by going to the GOA web page at www.gunowners.org, or by writing to 8001 Forbes Place, Springfield, VA 22151.

Wake Up Your Spring Garden

By Kathleen Lamont

Spring is in sight and it's time to wake up your garden. It's late winter here in Western North Carolina and I have been getting in some early garden maintenance. The first thing I do in late winter is plant sweet peas in mid-February for my summer flower garden. After that's complete, I begin looking over last year's soil test results. Seasoned home gardeners most likely have already completed this first step in their Spring garden preparation.

The first step in soil testing is to stop by your local extension office and obtain the container that is required to transport soil samples. In order to obtain an accurate reading, take samples from several different areas of your garden. Last year I sampled soil from my blueberry bushes, flower garden and newly established vegetable patch. Since I have recently moved to a new home, all of these soils are new to me and the soil test results will give me a baseline from which to make decisions on the kind of amendments each plot requires and in what quantities. Soil testing should be done every year in the Fall just before you put your garden to

bed. You will receive the results back from the lab within a few weeks and will be ahead of the game in early Spring when most growers are just beginning to think about such things.

Soil test results most often focus on the NPK (nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium) that reside in your soil. The letters NPK are represented as numbers on most fertilizer bags such as 15-10-15. The higher the number the faster the release. However, high numbers indicate salt-based chemical fertilizers which, because of their ability to kill soil microbes, are discouraged from use by the organic grower. The lower numbers like 5-4-4 on the organically produced fertilizers indicate a slow release of nutrients into the soil—just like nature would provide.

Other things nature would provide are materials which break down into a dark, rich humus such as leaves, manures, weeds, grass clippings and garden waste. Less and less emphasis is being placed on NPK these days and more and more on the minerals and beneficial microbes that

exist in our soils. These microbes are the key ingredients, along with that rich and vital organic matter, that produce abundantly nutritious vegetables and fruits which ultimately contribute to our health and strengthen our immune system.

Let's take a closer look at the makeup of your soil and the dynamic principles of photosynthate of green plants. Photosynthate is the food that plants produce when sunlight strikes their chlorophyll. Most crop plants, however, send 50% of their photosynthate back into the soil. Now wait a minute, what's the evolutionary advantage of doing that rather than using the food to build plant tissues and store reserves? It's simple. The food returned to the soil nurtures the beneficial soil microorganisms that convert soil components into nutrients useable by the plant. Those same beneficial microorganisms (bacteria, algae, fungi, etc.) create a buffer against other soil organisms whose job is to attack unhealthy plants and decompose them. It's a beautiful cooperative arrangement.

Continued on page 38

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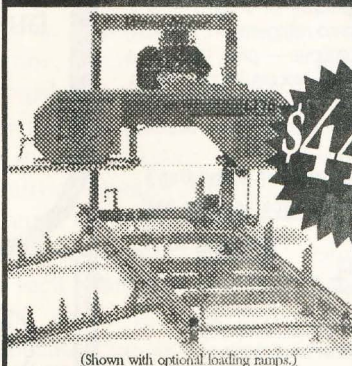
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Wake Up Your Spring Garden continued...

Continued from page 37

But why, you might ask, would some microorganisms attack some plants? Well, the chemical companies would have you believe that these plant diseases and insects are our enemies, but such is not the case. These insects and diseases arrive to take an already weakened plant out of the genetic reproductive chain because the plant is not fit to reproduce itself. And as you now know, the plant is not fit to reproduce itself because the soil is not healthy with an abundance of microbes. The soil is not healthy with microbes because the grower either neglected to take a soil test and add organic matter to bring the minerals up to a healthy level or the grower used chemical salt-based fertilizers which merely introduce massive amounts of chemicals into the soil, half of which go into the plant while killing the

beneficial soil microorganisms and the other half runs off into the water table. After about 50 years of this activity you might imagine that the situation is getting pretty grim.

I have mentioned the concept of growing using organic practices and you might wonder exactly what are organic practices? Simply put, the grower uses no chemical fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides or herbicides; practices crop rotation; and has a well thought-out soil building program in place. Additionally, Organic Farmers who grow for market have their growing areas certified organic. This enables them to receive fair market value for their produce and assures the consumer that the vegetables they are buying have met the highest organic standards. These are the basics of organic growing—now let's look at some of soil enrichment ideas, starting with compost.

Compost is an excellent slow-release input and it's virtually free. Kitchen scraps, weeds, leaves, grass clippings, crab meal, and manure are just a few items that can be used. You can set up an elaborate 3-bin system for turning and rotating the compost or you can pile it up and let it decompose in its own sweet time. You may have read ads in gardening magazines which say "Compost in 2 weeks," and this is possible. However, you must follow a specific recipe of layering the pile with green stuff, brown stuff, manure or finished compost to start the microbial action, and water. This creates a pile that cooks and should get up to 160-180 degrees. A pile this hot will burn all types of seeds and prevent the reseeding of weeds. This pile must be covered in order to control the amount of water it receives.

Here's a reality check for you. In 1993 North Carolinians produced

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6,000,000 tons of solid waste; 7% was recycled; 1% was incinerated and 92% went to the landfill—42% of what went to the landfill was compostable. Next Fall when you see bagged leaves left out for landfill pickup—take them home to add to your compost pile.

A Recipe for Layered Compost (from the bottom up):

- Add water the consistency of a sponge to the pile
- Leaves (Brown/Carbon)
- Grass or Weeds (Green/N)
- Leaves
- Manure or Finished Compost
- Green
- Leaves
- Manure or Soil
- Green
- Leaves
- Branches or wood pallet

Although soil is primarily composed of pulverized rock, years of supporting plant life depletes most of the minerals and nutrients. The addition of rock dust to remineralize your soil is another valuable input. Rock dust occurs naturally and is a by-product of the gravel industry. Although almost any ground rock is a good addition to the garden, experts suggest locating a dust consisting of several rock types for a variety of minerals. Dust that has been naturally ground and mixed by a glacier or river is best. Such dust will contain a variety of rocks and create really fertile soil. I have used rock dust for years and studied its applications and results in a publication called *Remineralize the Earth* [152 South Street, Northampton, MA 01060-4021].

Additionally, it has been found that there is a connection between sugar craving and demineralized vegetables. A "brix" reading is a test which gives the sugar content of vegetables; a high brix reading correlates to mineral content. High plant sugar equals high mineral content equals no pest problems as well. Eating remineralized vegetables means no unhealthy and unbalanced sugar cravings. There are

plenty of quarries and resources available to obtain rock dust locally if you are interested in this type of input.

If you are wondering what other naturally occurring materials you might use in your garden, following is a list of organic fertilizers and soil conditioners:



- Manures - Composted manures are usually richer and more stable in terms of nutrients as micro-organisms are already established. Source: Cow, Horse, Chicken, Turkey. Generally high in Nitrogen and organic matter.

- Sources of Nitrogen:

Blood Meal - 11-0-0
Fish Emulsion - 4-1-1
Soybean Meal - 7-.05-2.3

- Sources of Phosphate:

Bone Meal - 1-11-0
Rock Phosphate - 0-3-0

- Sources of Potassium

Greensand - 7% Potash
Sul-Po-Mag - 0-0-22
Wood Ash - 0-1.5-8

- pH Balance

Limestone, Dolomitic
Limestone, Calcitric

- Rock Dust - crushed gravel dust, used to Remineralize the soil. Causes a rapid growth of the micro-organisms in the soil; increases nutrient intake of plants.

- Compost - Source of organic matter

The next principle to organic growing, rotating crops each year, makes sense when you think about it. You may recall that agribusiness grows the same crop on the same parcel of land year after year. This practice is known as monocropping and year after year the same diseases and same insects show up and year after year the same chemicals are applied which solve the infestations

and disease problems while unwittingly poisoning the plant and soil. By rotating crops each year, the organic grower avoids the diseases and insects which may have over-wintered in the soil and are attracted to that particular plant.

An organic grower is aware of the vagaries of hybridized seeds and more than likely collects and saves open-pollinated seeds for next year's crop. Although hybrid seeds produce beautiful fruit, the seeds from that fruit do not produce true to form year after year and at some point new seeds need to be purchased. A New York Times article from February 1994 reported on a National Research Council study which warned that due to the proliferation of hybridized seed and the corresponding loss of seed varieties in this country and worldwide, we could see devastating consequences for agriculture and our global food supply.

Agronomists now estimate that just 10 varieties of rice will soon cover three quarters of the areas where 30,000 varieties once were harvested. Where over 7,000 American varieties of apples were listed at the turn of the century, 86% of the old varieties are now extinct. Another investigative study from the Los Angeles Times reported in December 1993 on the dangers of narrowing the fields. It explored in depth the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization's statement that we are at risk of catastrophic crop loss if wild ancestors are not available as replacements in the event disease, dramatic climate change or other catastrophe strikes. It further stressed that the tendency toward monoculture and intensive agriculture has increased vulnerability to outbreak of disease and pests. Due to these facts, most organic growers use heirloom or open-pollinated seed to grow their crops and in recent years there has been a proliferation of seed companies which provide these types of seed.

An organization worthy of your support is Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, IA (3076 North Winn Road,
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Wake Up Your Garden continued...

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52101). It is a nonprofit organization whose international mission is to save rare food crops from extinction. They run a showcase farm that grows, evaluates and preserves thousands of plant species each year. Members of the organization participate in an international seed and plant exchange, through which hundreds of gardeners from all over the world generously share their rare, nonhybrid seeds and plants with each other, mostly for the cost of postage. If you are struck by the precariousness of worldwide seed stock, this is an organization worth supporting.

Take the time this week to begin your spring soil preparations. Search out the nearest store which sells organic fertilizers and soil conditioners. If there are none, there are mail order catalogs, such as Gardens Alive!, which offer a wide variety of products. Organic Gardening Magazine is another rich resource for information and ideas which you can put to good use. And remember, go easy on yourself, you can't do it all in one day. See you in the garden!

Kathleen Lamont is certified as an Organic Farm Inspector and teaches organic practices in her homesteading classes. For further information, contact her at: Back to Basics, P.O. Box 1138, Waynesville, NC 28786; (704) 452-2866; or visit her website at: <http://www.dnet.net/~basics>.

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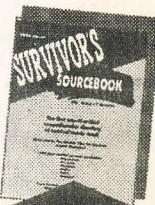
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An Introduction To Solar Energy

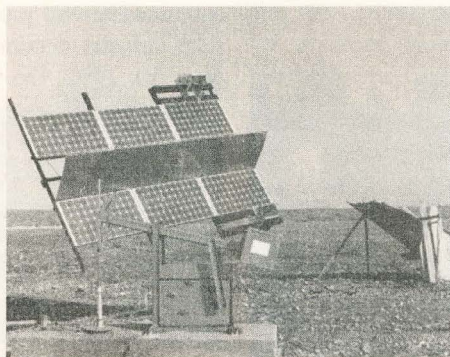
By Kathleen Lamont

Using the sun's energy to produce heat or electricity is not a new idea. Technologies that capture the radiation of the sun and use it to produce energy have been available in one form or another for centuries, and they continue to be refined and developed today. Currently, solar thermal devices do everything from heating swimming pools to creating steam for electricity generation, while photovoltaic devices use semiconducting materials to convert sunlight directly into electricity.

Solar energy technologies carry along important advantages for electric utility and other users. First, the solar resource has no "fuel" cost and is abundantly available. In many parts of the world, the sun shines intensely on a daily basis, providing a nearly unlimited power resource for devices that convert the sun's insolation (Insolation is the radiation from the sun received by the Earth's surface, or the rate of such radiation per unit of surface.) into useful energy. Second, solar daily output often matches air conditioning loads, and thus provides high value. Third, most solar equipment is modular, meaning that capacity can be increased or decreased incrementally depending on demand. Solar power plants can, therefore, be readily matched to changes in load growth, decreasing the risk and cost associated with capacity additions. Fourth, most photovoltaic technologies can easily be operated in remote off grid areas. There is no need for connection to transmission and distribution lines and minimal need for maintenance and monitoring. Finally, solar technologies are environmentally cleaner than conventional energy technologies. Solar thermal and photovoltaic devices produce no operating wastes, no air pollution, and little or no noise.

Even with these advantageous characteristics, solar energy technologies currently face some limitations for

widespread use. While the cost for solar thermal and photovoltaic devices has declined substantially over the past few decades, many applications still are not fully cost competitive with conventional technologies. Also, like wind power, solar energy relies on a fuel source



(sunlight) that reaches the Earth's surface intermittently, resulting in storage and load matching problems. Nevertheless, solar energy currently plays an important role in some energy sectors (for example, off grid electricity applications) and is expected to have a broader role as the development and commercialization of solar technologies continue.

Solar radiation is nearly constant outside the Earth's atmosphere, but the amount of solar energy, or insolation, reaching any point on the Earth varies with changing atmospheric conditions (such as clouds and dust) and the changing position of the Earth relative to the sun. Insolation is greatest in the West and Southwest regions of the United States. Average direct beam solar radiation in parts of Nevada is more than twice that found through most of the eastern States or in the Northwest. Nevertheless, almost all U.S. regions have useful solar resources that can be accessed for various applications.

Solar energy technologies are separated into two major categories by the type of energy used: solar thermal devices, which use the sun's heat energy, and photovoltaic devices, which use the

energy inherent in the solar photons and convert it directly into electricity.

Solar Thermal Technology

Small-scale solar thermal collector technologies use sunlight to heat swimming pools or water for domestic or industrial use. Solar thermal technologies designed to produce electricity encompass a group of different devices that use mirrors to concentrate heat from the sun to create steam for electricity generation.

In the case of solar thermal-electric devices, reflective surfaces are designed to track the movement of the sun, either vertically or horizontally (single axis tracking), or both (dual axis tracking). The heat generated by the concentrated sunlight, which can reach temperatures of 3,600° F, is transferred to a working fluid such as water, oil, or molten salt and turns the fluid into steam. The steam drives a turbine electric generator or heat engine, and the waste steam is condensed and returned to the collector to absorb more heat.

Solar thermal-electric system concepts include parabolic troughs,

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Independent Distributors

An Introduction To Solar Energy continued...

Continued from page 41

parabolic dishes, and heliostats (highly reflective mirrors). The parabolic trough system, which has single axis tracking, focuses solar radiation onto a fluid filled pipe running the length of the trough. The modular troughs can be grouped together to produce large amounts of heated fluid. The dish/engine system uses a dish-shaped reflector with dual axis tracking to concentrate the solar energy and ultimately heat a fluid powering a small engine/generator mounted at the focal point of the dish. The "power tower" system uses an array of heliostats to focus sunlight onto a tower mounted central receiver filled with a working fluid. The heated fluid produces steam that drives a turbine to produce electricity.

Solar Thermal Industry Infrastructure

The United States is one of the technological leaders in photovoltaic and solar thermal technologies. More than 500 companies in the solar industry generate over 8,000 jobs, and thousands of other companies indirectly employ thousands more. Public and industry demand for solar equipment has grown steadily over the past few decades, propelling the solar industry to grow and the rate of commercialization to increase. Solar systems have now been installed to heat the water in 1.2 million houses and buildings across the country, and more than 300,000 swimming pools are heated with solar systems.

In 1994, 41 solar thermal collector manufacturers shipped 7.6 million square feet of collectors, an increase of 9 percent from 1993. Pool heating equipment represented 89 percent of the shipments and water heating 10 percent. The residential sector accounted for 92 percent of the shipments and the commercial sector 8 percent. In 1993, 91 percent of the solar thermal devices were shipped to only four States and Puerto Rico, but in 1994 the same five localities accounted for only 78 percent of the destination locations. The number of wholesale distributors increased from 3,710 in 1993 to 5,504 in 1994.

Solar thermal electric technologies also continue to be refined and advanced. Between 1985 and 1991, the industry installed nine parabolic trough plants in the Mojave Desert, with a total generating capacity of 354 megawatts. A cost shared program between DOE and the operating company successfully reduced operating and maintenance costs by up to 50 percent in 1995. Solar One, a 10-megawatt power tower, operated on grid between 1983 and 1988. It met most of its technical objectives but was not economical.

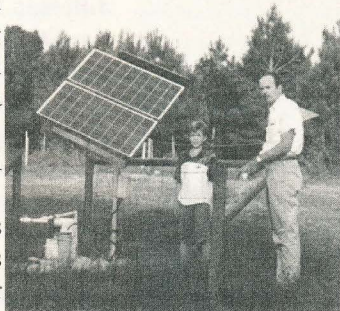
In 1992, a utility consortium began converting it from a water/steam system to a molten salt system, which will

enable heat to be stored during periods without sun. This newest online baseload solar thermal plant, called Solar Two, began testing subsystems in 1995. Once the technical checkout is complete, the consortium plans to operate the plant for 3 years. A 7 kilowatt dish/engine system has been under development since 1991, and 10 of the systems were delivered in 1996. A second generation 25 kilowatt system was built in 1996, with a goal of limited commercial production by 1998.

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-486) contained several provisions that affect the infrastructure of the solar industry. Section 1916 extended indefinitely, retroactive to June 30, 1992, the 10 percent investment tax credit for solar equipment. At the end of 1993, 30 States had legislation providing financial incentives for investment in the use of solar devices. Many electric utilities joined the government action with low financing programs and rebates for investments in solar devices. The Rural Electrification Loan Restructuring Act of 1993 also contained provisions allowing rural electric cooperatives to make low interest loans to assist their customers in the financing of on and off grid solar energy systems.

Solar Photovoltaic Technology

Photovoltaic technologies use semiconducting materials to convert sunlight directly into electricity.



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Photovoltaics is the only renewable technology that does not convert resource energy into mechanical energy to generate electricity. Photovoltaic cells operate best during the peak hours of sunlight, but they also have the ability to produce electricity under almost any lighting conditions.

The basic unit in a photovoltaic system is a solid state device called the solar cell (or photovoltaic cell). Solar cells are composed of semiconducting materials that produce electricity when sunlight is absorbed. Several solar cells are interconnected to form a module, which is then mounted on a frame with other modules to form panels and arrays. The array may be fixed (e.g., on a roof) or mounted to track the sun. Photovoltaic technologies use a variety of materials to generate electricity, including wafers of single crystal or polycrystalline silicon; thin film materials such as amorphous silicon or polycrystalline silicon; and high efficiency, multijunction cells such as gallium arsenide alloys.

Perhaps the most basic model of the photovoltaic effect is the single crystal silicon cell and module. The cells and modules are composed of a symmetrical lattice of silicon atoms that share electrons with four neighboring silicon atoms. When a photon of sunlight is absorbed by the cell, it may transfer enough energy to an electron to free it from its position, allowing it to move in the crystal lattice. The space left by the freed electron is called a hole. An electric current is generated in the cell because the free electrons and the holes are attracted to each other by their opposite charges. This process enables photovoltaic cells to provide electricity for external needs. Two other types of photovoltaic technologies are thin film cells and modules (made from a number of layers of photovoltaic materials such as amorphous silicon) and concentrator cells and modules (in which a lens is used to gather and converge sunlight onto the cell or module surface).

Photovoltaic Industry Infrastructure

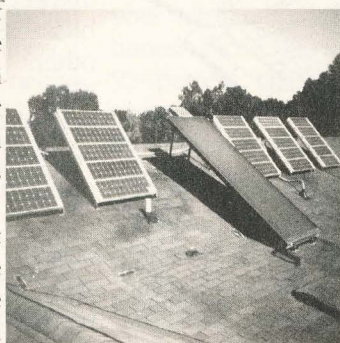
In 1994, shipments of photovoltaic cells and modules increased by 25 percent over 1993 shipments, to 26 peak megawatts. Shipments of single crystal silicon cells and modules almost doubled between 1993 and 1994, and shipments of cast and ribbon silicon units increased by 60 percent. The industrial sector was the largest buyer of photovoltaic cells and modules in both 1993 and 1994, with generation both on and off grid representing the largest end use. Industry shipments have increased by an average of 18 percent per year over the past 10 years, and their value in 1994 totaled \$106 million. Unit prices per peak watt have declined by 71 percent and 36 percent for cells and modules, respectively, over the same period.

Photovoltaics are used the world over as completely independent sources of electricity. In remote areas, the cost of

using photovoltaics can be much smaller than the cost of installing transmission and distribution lines to carry electricity from conventional sources. Remote applications include everything from providing electricity for domestic use to powering freeway call boxes and communications systems. In remote or inaccessible areas, photovoltaics provide long term cost effective power for many uses.

While small photovoltaic systems (mostly for remote applications) are already commercialized, large scale systems are currently in the demonstration phase. Thirty nine electric utilities are testing grid connected photovoltaic systems in the United States. The 1,000 megawatt Solar Enterprise Zone in Nevada may represent the next phase of growth. The photovoltaic industry and 85 utilities have teamed together to form cost shared partnerships totaling more than \$385 million of startup capital over a 5 year period (more detailed discussion follows). Another partnership program called PV for Utility Scale Applications or PVUSA was formed in 1989 to test hardware for utility applications. Public and private research and development projects also continue to lower the costs and increase the level of product applicability of photovoltaics.

NOTE: this text comes from the EIA's Renewable Energy Annual. For questions about content, please contact the National Energy Information Center: infoctr@eia.doe.gov; or call: (202) 586-8800



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A New Home Business Paradigm

By Phil Karl

Being prepared is not just a state of mind. It is active and systematic. It is being possessed of sufficient resources, energy and time to do what you need and want to do. It is knowing how the world will be working tomorrow and starting to work that way yourself today. If there is a measure of control over our livelihood and personal finances, this may be it. Still, few people believe that the self-sufficiency and freedom that being financially independent and self-employed provide are possible — least not for them.

Have you thought about being your own boss? What stops you? Have you planned your future and your family's future? Do you feel confident and well prepared? The answer to these and similar questions for most people is something like, "umm...well, not yet...I hope to be able to...fat chance." Without a degree of financial freedom and independence it is impossible to be prepared for the future. To understand this, it is helpful to examine the current employment market and how people's livelihood reflects the times.

Working Today

In the American workplace today the statistical average is fifteen hundred layoffs per day. Today's college graduate will have five career changes in his or her working life. Even companies and institutions that have been known for decades as being a lifetime employment opportunity are apologetically laying off their workforce and "downsizing" for survival. This kind of news is in the media so often now that most of us have simply stopped paying attention. So much for security.

How about retirement? Are the "golden years" something to look forward to? In a recent study the US Department of Health and Human Services estimated that only 5 percent of Americans at retirement age are financially independent and less than 1 percent are wealthy enough to do what



they want. Thirty-five percent are dead. What's more, over 50 percent of retirees are dependent on the Social Security system (determined by the government to be headed for bankruptcy based on economic factors and changing demographics), family or friends. Not a pretty picture. Most of us hope or imagine that we will be in that fortunate one percent but that may depend on winning the lottery or finding a Rembrandt at a yard sale, which is slightly less likely than being struck by lightning, although more lucrative.

Of that wealthy 1 percent, 1 percent of those became wealthy by investing in stocks, inventing something useful that caught on, as actors or as musicians. Another 5 percent did it by being top notch sales people. Ten percent of that 1 percent are doctors, lawyers or other high level professional people who are virtually assured of a lifetime of lucrative employment, if they can pay for and survive the stress of their educational process in the first place. Yet another 10 percent are CEO's in big-time corporate America. The remaining 74 percent of the wealthy-upon-retirement got there by owning and running their own business.

Having your own business and being an entrepreneur (literally, one who assumes risk for the sake of profit) may or may not sound like a pretty good deal (especially that part about assuming

risk). Actually, everything considered, this author thinks that it is a good deal. So, let's look at the facts.

The Deal

The US economy is still the most robust in the world and we have a long American tradition of creative people using the free market to build successful businesses that benefit themselves, others and the economy overall. This vibrant economy was established and developed by entrepreneurs, but it can be an uphill battle.

The average conventional small business today costs over \$80,000 to start, and the owner needs to be prepared not to turn a profit for months or even the first year. That \$80,000 is thus only the initial investment and if not prepared to financially hunker down, cover expenses and taxes the moment a profit is turned, the owner will fail even if the long term outlook is good. And that is the risk. The owner of the small business startup is risking a lot, both personally and financially.

When I started my own training and development consulting business in the late 1980's I soon hit my stride with a 60-70 hour work week. Working less than that led to a sense of panic and sleeplessness about not growing the business fast enough and since I wasn't sleeping anyway, I just kept working. When I was busy marketing my consulting services I was not doing the billable work and making money. When I was busy doing training I had no time to prospect for the next job. I often found myself waiting three, four and even six months for accounts receivable. Quite the roller coaster. I wore all of the hats, so to speak. I was the trainer, marketer, manager, administrator. I didn't own the business — the business owned me. After three-and-a-half years I finally got my gross revenue well into the six-figure range but with the

overhead of employees, office, taxes and insurance I still was not making very good money myself. I discovered that with your own business you are always the last to get paid. So much for the romance of the American Dream — it was becoming a bad dream that was hard to wake up from.

The point of this example is not to say that in business every entrepreneur's experience will be the same as my own. People, industries, the economy and other circumstances differ. The point is that based on my personal experience I learned something critical. I learned that if you own a more-or-less conventional business of any sort today, and you work hard at it, it is massively stressful and only truly financially rewarding to a very few. If you do not work hard at it you will almost certainly fail. If on the other hand, you decide to live out your work life as an employee, being paid as little as possible by your employer but just enough to keep you from leaving, you are likely living a life of quiet desperation that will never lead to a measure of financial freedom. But then, I suppose there is always the lottery or tripping over that Rembrandt.

Statistically anyway, owning your own business is the single most likely route to the kind of financial preparedness we are seeking. Still, a series of very challenging questions arise; Where do I start? What kind of business is low stress and provides the flexibility that I need? Can I start something and keep my "day job" to eliminate risk to my financial security? How much capital do I need and what type of business will minimize that need? Where do I find the most significant earning potential with the least risk overall? Good questions, all.

Home Sweet Home

An explosive trend these days is the growth of home-based businesses. Everyone from architects to beauticians to consultants to marketers are starting and running businesses from their home. And for good reason. Currently it is estimated that 44 percent of US households have an "income generating or after-hours home office". By the next decade, 50 percent of

US households will have some form of home business operating within them. A new home-based business opens every ten seconds and, according to Money Magazine (3/96), nearly two million Americans make six-figure incomes at home. The advantages can be substantial in terms of taxes (not many tax breaks left...if you're not already rich), decreased overhead and thus decreased business risk, considerably less stress and a dramatic reduction in commuting time (how long does it take you to walk from your kitchen to your spare bedroom-turned-office?). Home businesses have a 95 percent first-year survival rate, as compared with a 90 percent failure rate for conventional small businesses. They are thriving and creating nearly one quarter of a million new jobs every month, while fifteen hundred jobs are being lost daily in the conventional workplace.

One of the largest and most dynamic segments of the home business phenomenon is occupied by network marketing. There are currently hundreds of network marketing companies in operation in the US and 125 other countries worldwide. Their distributors market everything from telephone service to cosmetics to nutritional products to legal services. Men and women everywhere are starting these low risk home-based businesses and running them — some with substantial success. Network marketing is responsible for worldwide revenue of approximately \$100 billion and growing. The following is briefly how this type of business works.

Network What?

The various stores, catalogs and other places where we purchase, well, basically everything we need from macaroni to cars is essentially a vast open marketplace. In the case of product oriented companies the essential components of that marketplace are manufacture, advertising, distribution and sales. A manufacturer typically receives about thirty five cents of every dollar that you pay for a product. The rest goes toward advertising, transportation, warehousing,

sales salaries and commissions, and finally the retailer. Only about one third of what you pay for a product goes to the manufacturer.

In network marketing companies, thirty five cents of every retail dollar also goes to the manufacturer, and about five cents to the transporter who moves the product directly from the manufacturer to the customer. So what happens to the other sixty cents? In contrast to conventional businesses, this is paid out as commissions to the independent home-based distributors. These home-based distributors, for a modest initial investment to start their business, often working part time (nearly always from home), informally market or network the products and services they represent. The reason that this works so well is that these days, we are all bombarded with advertising and every conceivable marketing ploy, and a few you would never conceive of, all the time.

The way that we are influenced to purchase something is based on exaggeration, sensory overload and sometimes downright deception. Network marketing by contrast, is face to face, often among networks of friends, colleagues and even family. This kind of system is based on sharing and trust. The point of view of friends and people you know is trusted, and the more conventional product/service marketing strategies are mistrusted. If a friend recommends a good movie or restaurant, you are likely to go. If someone you know has had a good experience with a product or service, you get interested. People are buying greater and greater quantities of goods and services they need in just this way, and many experts view network marketing as the wave of the future.

Some network marketers will retail products from their own stocks, but for the most part products are shipped directly from the manufacturer to the consumer. This eliminates one of the most risky and difficult requirements of the older style "multi-level marketing" companies, often referred to as "front

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A New Home Business Paradigm continued...

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end loading", in which distributors had to invest sometimes thousands of dollars of their own money in product and then sell it out of their garage. That practice was risky to the entrepreneur. The better network marketing companies today directly ship product from their own inventory, which frees the distributors in the field from up-front investment, distribution, collections, inventory and other burdensome activities. They are free to do what they presumably do best which is network. Talking to people about their products or services and doing business.

Purchases made in the distributor's group, called "downline", are credited toward the distributor's monthly commission. Commissions are generally drawn, depending on the company's particular compensation plan, from several levels in one's downline. In other words if our distributor signs up

(registers with the company) a new distributor under him or her, and that person signs up a few people, several of whom sign up several more people and so on, commissions are soon drawn from the purchases of many people. The size of those commissions can grow exponentially. All of those people, some purchasing products or services and some working for themselves to create residual income in their own home-based businesses, are working for you by producing monthly income as commissions from your "group volume." This is a win-win business relationship. It is important to understand that the money for paying distributors' commissions comes from that 60 percent of the retail dollar that used to go to sales, advertising, warehousing and all the rest of it. The consumer gets a quality product with a guarantee of satisfaction, the company gets an effective and highly motivated grass roots sales force and the

distributors can become a well paid group of home-based entrepreneurs. I guess we could call that a win-win-win relationship.

Some network marketers are enormously successful. Some fail. Many others supplement their regular household income with a second income stream that is "residual" in nature. Residual income may not be a foreign concept to many, but it is a foreign way of generating income to all but a few. The most commonly known ways to generate residual income are through writing a book, a hit song, or by being a television or movie actor. The idea of residual income is simply that the work has already been done, and the "residuals" (payments) roll in every time the book is sold or the song is played. You worked, and the product of your work is out there now working for you while you do other things. It's the same

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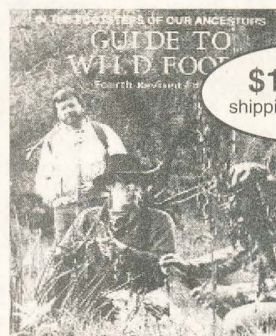
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Self Defense Tactics: The Confrontation

By Mike Dalton and Mickey Fowler

Tactics are as much prevention as they are a plan of action for a confrontation. Answering your door carefully is a perfect example of avoiding trouble before it begins. Too many people are very casual about letting strangers into their homes without considering the possibility the desire to gain entrance is not for legitimate reasons. A perfect example is a very successful "con" a team of criminals used. An attractive woman would knock on a door, explain she had car trouble and requested the use of the home owner's phone to call for help. Most men were quick to oblige, and all who were accommodating were both surprised and disappointed when her two burly companions proceeded to subdue the homeowner, and burglarize the contents of the home. This method is not unusual, and a conman will do anything to enter your home for reasons unknown to you until he achieves entry.

The proper way to answer your door would be keeping it locked and using a device to see who is there. If it is someone you do not know, or are not expecting such as a service technician, do not let him inside. Unless you have a window near the front door which provides you with a full view, you should install a "peephole" with either a pivoting action, or one which has a curved lens providing a full view. Peepholes are inexpensive and easily installed. You don't want to install any type of device which allows large areas to be hidden from view, or which requires the door to be opened a crack. Chain locks, still widely used, can be broken with extreme ease, and provide literally no protection at all. Along with the "peephole," it is a good idea to install a small door to talk through. This would allow you to exchange information without opening your door.

Sometimes you might be expecting someone you do not know such as a service man, or sales person. Most can be trusted, but for peace of mind, we feel it is an excellent prevention method to have your handgun with you in a concealable position. This is actually a good habit to get



into whenever answering the door. Even though it is legal to carry a handgun with you while in your home, by all means, keep it concealed. You will either unnecessarily alarm an innocent party, or alert a possible assailant that you are armed.

Another area of caution is when you have returned home from work, shopping, or any other activity. It is amazing how many people blindly get out of their car and walk into a home which is being burglarized and are injured or killed needlessly. If only they had developed good awareness habits, most of them would have realized long before they entered the house something was wrong.

When you pull into your driveway take a few seconds and check the immediate area. Is something out of place? Is there a car in the driveway or in front of the house which looks suspicious? By being suspicious, your common sense should tell you that if someone is sitting in a car in front of your house or worse, in your driveway, an alarm should go off in your head! If this happens in your driveway, note the license number, back out of there, and get to a phone and call the police. Let the police ask the individual why he or she is there; don't take a chance. A car on the street however could be nothing, but always keep track of it until it is gone, and write down the license number if you can obtain it safely.

Before you exit your car look at any possible hiding areas around the immediate area. As you enter your home

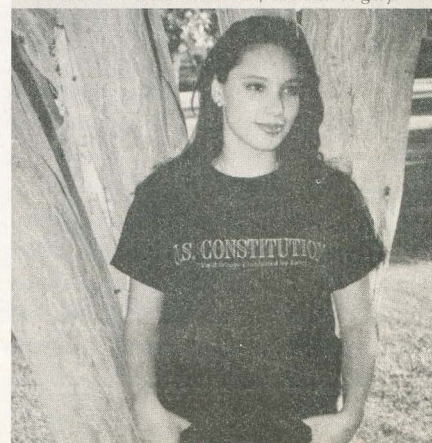
you should continue to check out your surroundings. Before entering you should also take a look at the windows and doors, being sure everything is the way they were left. If not, and you are convinced someone may be inside, leave and call the police. Your children should be taught these same prevention methods as well.

There are many things you can do to enter your home safely. First, whatever entrance you are most likely to use, keep the area clear of hiding places. Overgrown bushes provide a good hiding place, and create a dangerous situation. For those times when you will be returning home after dark have your exterior lighting on a timing system. Keep a flashlight in your car for walking to the house. Have your high beams on when you pull up in your driveway. When you enter the home, you should have a light switch available as soon as you enter. Keeping a light inside the home either on, or on an intermittent timer is also advisable.

One of the sad realities of our society today is that by dressing fashionable, wearing expensive jewelry, and driving a newer automobile, you instantly become a

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Self Defense Tactics: The Confrontation continued...

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more likely target for a mugging or assault. A perfect example is a recent situation in which a professional thief working alone boldly picked out a particular supermarket in which a very wealthy clientele shopped. He would pick out a woman who wore the finest in clothing and jewelry. He would then follow the woman home, beat the occupants, and rob them of all their valuables. He was successful for many months. Awareness on the part of most victims could have prevented the situation from affecting them. The man was finally caught because a woman noticed she was being followed and used her car phone to alert police. It was ironic In that, if the criminal had not chosen someone who could afford a car phone, he still might be on the loose today. Obviously, how you dress, the jewelry you wear, and the car you drive, can increase your need to be aware of what is taking place around you.

In general the following are things you should develop a habit of checking when entering your home:

1. Strange vehicle in your driveway.
2. Vehicle in front of your home, or a neighboring home which looks suspicious.
3. Someone wandering around your home, or hiding.
4. A window or door is not In the same condition as when you left.
5. Someone is in your home when no one else is supposed to be there.
6. You have been followed home by someone you do not know.

When we talk to people In our Self Defense training classes about these simple precautions. Sometimes someone will comment it sounds like we are promoting paranoia more than anything else. To someone who Is careless about such things as awareness and prevention, it might sound that way. If you ask someone who has been a victim, he will tell you he learned the hard way. The bottom line is considering the few seconds it takes for prevention, coupled with the fact it simply becomes a healthy habit quite quickly; it no longer sounds paranoid, it simply makes sense. If there is

a problem, you want to become aware of it early and leave. What you do not want is to become part of the problem, and suffer injury or death from carelessness.

Prevention Is also important when you are in your home. Most of us have somewhat regular schedules, and we know when someone is supposed to come

If someone has verbally threatened
you, do not brush it off

in or out. Regardless, including children, when any family member or friend enters your home. Make it a house rule for the persons entering to give a yell and identify themselves. There is nothing worse than failing to institute this simple prevention measure, and have a criminal enter your home unknown to you until it is too late. With daytime burglaries on the increase, don't make this mistake. People who enter your home should have a key, allowing you to keep all doors locked. Doors should never be left unlocked for the convenience of friends or family members. If your friend is trusted enough to simply enter your home without knocking, that friend can be trusted with a key. If a child is old enough to enter and exit your home unescorted, the child is old enough to have a key. Many people hide keys; it really isn't a bad idea, especially with children, but hide it! The under-the-welcome mat, or top shelf of an unlocked garage is inviting trouble. If you must keep a key hidden, do it wisely and cleverly.

We have discussed the location of your handgun previously, but we want to make it clear from the standpoint of prevention, that your handgun will be of little help if it is not accessible, or you are not sure where it is located. In the case of a family, or a roommate situation where two people share the same handgun, keep each other advised as to its location. Ideally you want your gun kept as near to you as possible when home. For the housewife, if you are home alone, and know you will be in one room for any length of time, keep it with you

if possible. The same holds true for men as well. If the children are home, from a safety standpoint, wherever you keep it, make sure it is not accessible to any children.

We would like to pay special attention to those of you who might at sometime for some reason believe your life is in danger, You might have been threatened, received abusive phone calls, been a witness to a serious crime, have had a dispute because of a personal relationship, or other situations in which someone has lethally threatened you in some manner. We strongly believe you should have your handgun with you at all times, while this situation persists. If someone has verbally threatened you, do not brush it off. First let the police know a threat has been made. Second, think, if someone is angry or crazy enough to threaten to take your life and commit the worst of all crimes, that individual just might be sick enough, or criminal enough to follow through on the threat. Protect yourself and be especially aware In this situation. Keep the police notified of any continuing threats, and do not engage in an exchange of threats with the individual threatening you. Don't tell him you are armed, don't tell the individual anything. From a tactical standpoint this would be the worst thing you could do.

Mickey Fowler is a three time Bianchi Cup Champion, and holder of the prestigious Combat Master ranking and is one of the all time leading winners of practical pistol competition. As such he is recognized as one of the top professional pistol shooters in the world today.

Mike Dalton is a Police Officer, FBI Certified Police Rangemaster, Police sub-machine gun instructor and serves as an instructor for the Los Angeles Sheriff's Academy. He is a five time Southwest Pistol League Champion and also holds the rank of Combat Master and holds numerous national and international records.

This article is an excerpt from their recently released book titled, Life Without Fear. It is one of the most informative guides ever written on the subject of self defense and the handgun. For further information call (818) 891-1723, or write P.O. Box 950254 Department PJ, Mission Hills, CA 97395.

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The Year 2000 Computer Crisis continued...

Continued from page 16

in order. Be prepared for accelerating political, social, and economic chaos. That means getting printouts of all your accounts, all of your contracts, and any dealings with the government. Assume that on January 1, 2000 you will no longer be a blip in any mainframe computer. Get hard copies of your insurance records that will stand up in court. Start checking with your bank and your financial brokers to find out if they are Year 2000 compliant. If they tell you they are, have them send you confirmation on their company letterhead. You'll find out in a hurry whether they are confident in their ability to avoid a computer system meltdown.

4. Buy some "wealth insurance" today. I'm speaking of

converting a reasonable portion of your assets from intangibles to tangibles, like gold and silver coins. Virtually every Y2K expert is in agreement that gold coins are the perfect Y2K financial shelter to protect yourself financially. If the Y2K damage is minimal, you'll never regret buying tangible assets because they offer protection, privacy, and profit potential.

5. Finally, prepare mentally and spiritually. Pray for a clear mind. Pray for our leaders. Remember, God remains in control even in the face of confusion, chaos, and crisis. In fact the truth often shines brightest in the darkness. Share what you learn about Y2K with your pastor, priest, or rabbi. Above all, once you are convinced the Y2K threat is serious, do something to alert

those whom you love that very serious trouble is coming and the time to prepare is now. As I have often said, I'd rather that you're prepared a year early than just one day late, this statement has never been truer than it is about the coming Y2Kaos.

Craig R. Smith is the founder of Y2Knet and the CEO of the Swiss America Trading Corporation, which is based in Phoenix, Arizona. Swiss America brokers are respected across the nation as precious metals professionals. They have a reputation for spending the necessary time to educate their clients about protecting their assets by diversification. For further information, call: (800) 289-2646 for specific portfolio recommendations.

A New Home Business Paradigm continued...

Continued from page 46

in network marketing. Once you have developed a downline, the business activity of that group is generating income for you. It is not wise to abandon it totally since everything of value requires attention, but once the work is done your network can continue to grow and generate income.

What It's Not

Network marketing is NOT the old "pyramid schemes". Everyone warns you about those, and for good reason. Pyramid schemes had no product or service, they were on the order of a sophisticated chain letter, having a brief and shady life in which nearly everyone who participated lost their money, except for those originating the scheme. They were a rip-off and are patently illegal in the United States. Network marketing companies run the gamut of

different products and services, most are reputable and many well established for years. Highly successful network marketing companies include Amway, Mary Kay Cosmetics and Nu Skin International. Some conventional corporations that have spun off network marketing divisions that are meeting with tremendous success include Avon Products and Gillette Corporation. It is essential to investigate whatever company one may be thinking about becoming involved with and I strongly recommend a book by Richard Poe called Wave 3, The New Era In Network Marketing for a comprehensive and critical review of how to select a company and how to do the business.

That's it. I hope that this information is helpful to those readers who may be seeking a way out of the rat race and into an exciting new adventure

in preparing your financial future. Be careful, pay attention, do your homework and have fun!

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Phil Karl is a training and development professional with a decade of experience in starting and running his own businesses. He currently runs his own home-based consulting company and trains people in how to startup and run their own home businesses. Those seriously interested in more information can leave him a message at 1-800-927-2527, extension 6296.



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